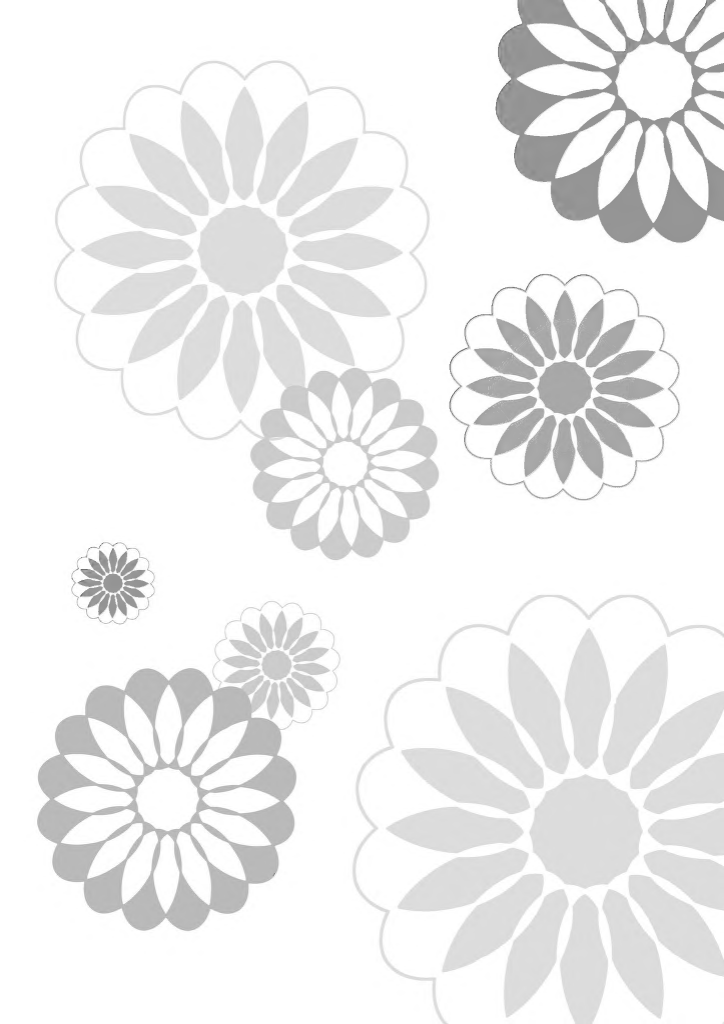
ああっ女神さまっ

16

藤島康介

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA

Oh My Goddess!



Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ 16

STORY AND ART BY
Kosuke Fujishima

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LETTERING AND TOUCHUP BY
Susie Lee AND Betty Dong
WITH Tom2K

DARK HORSE MANGA™

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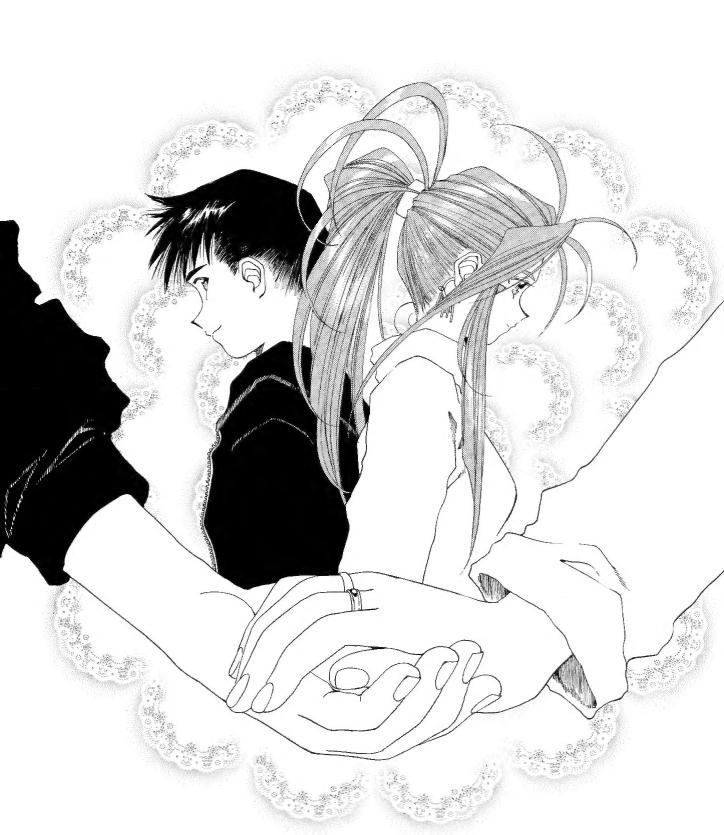
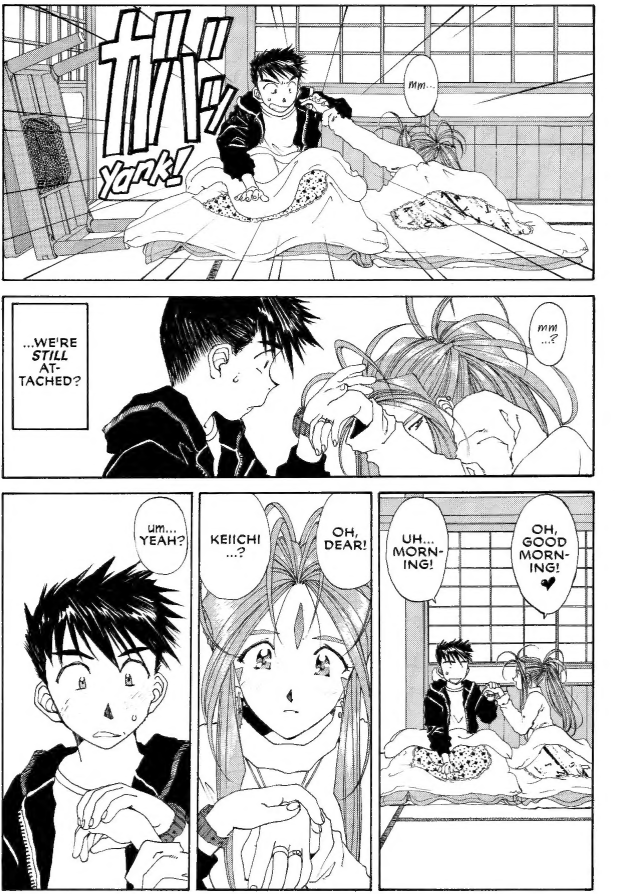


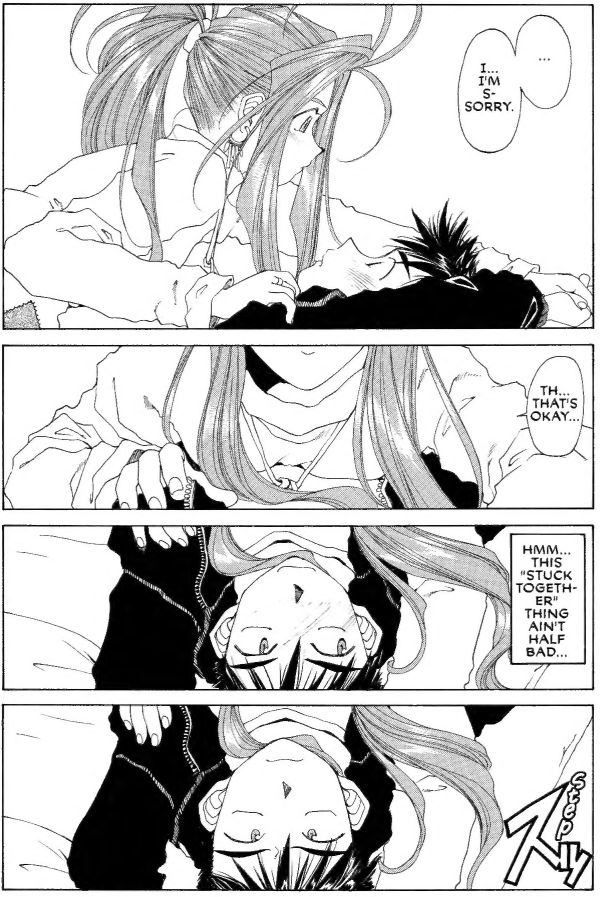
CHAPTER 91

I Want to Hold Your Hand

nmph
WHAZZA TIME ...?
nng.
ひどい
tired


ガバッ
yank!
mm...
...WE'RE STILL ATTACHED?
mm...?
um... YEAH?
KEIICHI ...?
OH, DEAR!
UH... MORNING!
OH, GOOD MORNING!

AH?!
I... I'M JUST--
OH?
YIKES
YOW!!
!!

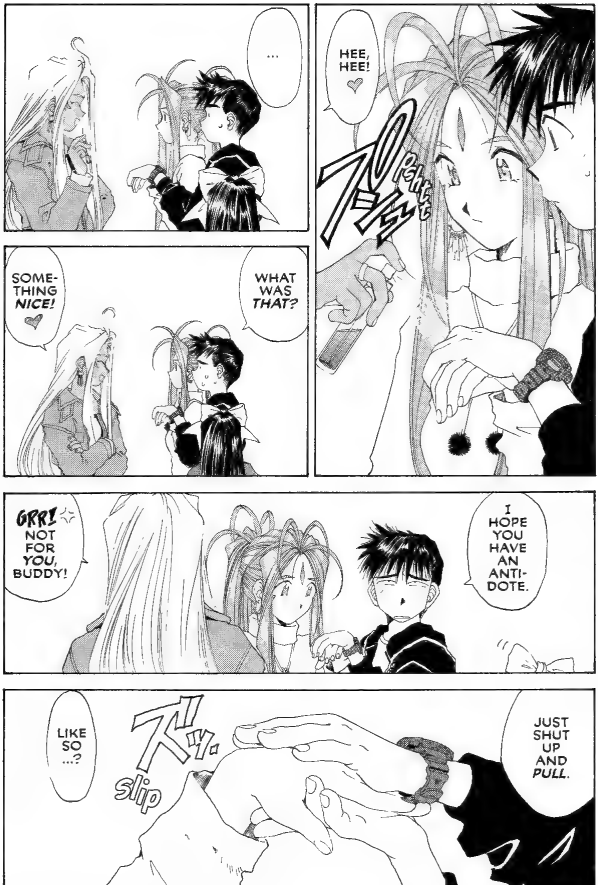

I... I'M S-SORRY.
...
TH... THAT'S OKAY...
HMM... THIS "STUCK TOGETHER" THING AIN'T HALF BAD...
Sneak

"UP AND AT 'EM" ...ARE WE ?!?
COMFY, ARE WE?
UM...
N-NO! WRONG! I-IT'S AN ACCIDENT...
SOR-RY...
OH... NO... TH-THAT'S OKAY, DEAR.

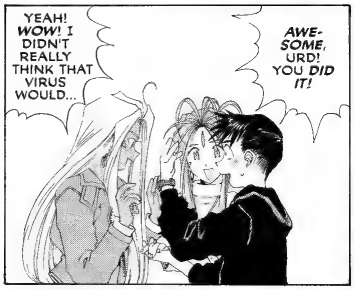
...PERVERT !!!
YOU BETTER LET GO OF HER RIGHT NOW, YOU... YOU...
OWW! I SAID IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, SKULD!
URD'S CASTLE
NO WAY.
OH, WAY.
STILL STUCK?
HUH?

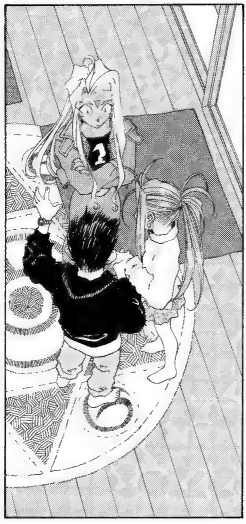
IT'S *YOUR* FAULT FOR MAKING SUCH A CREEPY WISH!
"ACCIDENT," I SAID. ACCIDENT.
NOW CAN YOU PLEASE TAKE "PERVERT" OFF MY FACE...?
I'M SO SORRY, KEIICHI.
IF WE'RE STUCK LIKE THIS *FOREVER* ...I...I...
SMACK SMACK
STILL... THAT SPELL SHOULDN'T LAST. SHE WAS DRUNK, *AND* USING THE LAST VESTIGES OF HER POWER. STRANGE...
HMM... MAYBE IT CAME FROM THE *HEART* ...?
OOH... I CAN'T REMEMBER *WHAT* I DID!
AND OF COURSE, ONLY *I* CAN UNDO IT...

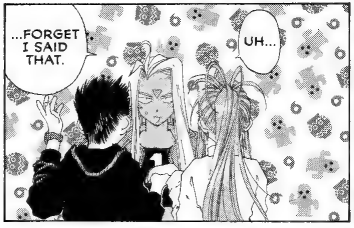
NO USE CRYING OVER SPILT SAKÉ!
ENOUGH! HALT!
LET'S THINK OF SOME WAY TO GET YOU LOOSE.
URD...?
"CONSTRUCTIVE"...?
...IT'S MORE CONSTRUCTIVE TO FIND A SOLUTION!
IF YOU'VE GOT TIME TO SNIVEL...

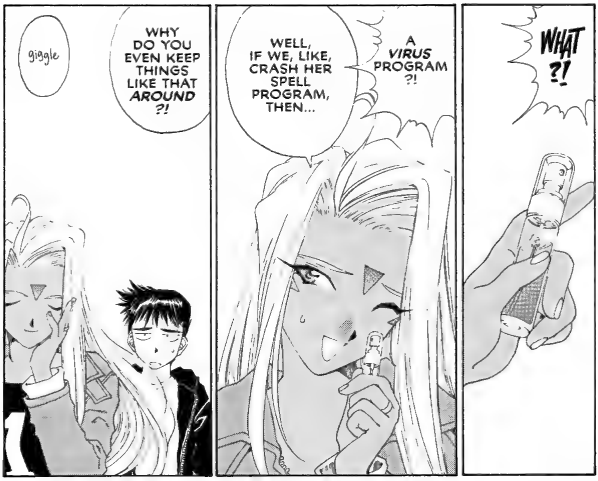

...
HEE, HEE!
フニッ
SOME-THING *NICE!*
WHAT WAS *THAT?*
GRR! NOT FOR *YOU*, BUDDY!
I HOPE YOU HAVE AN ANTI-DOTE.
LIKE SO ...?
ズッ
slip
JUST SHUT UP AND *PULL*.

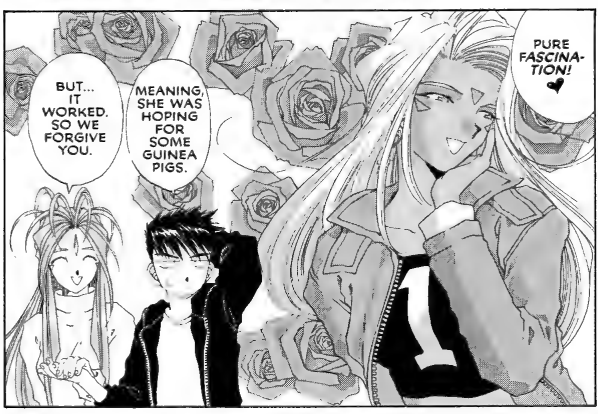
ぽん!
fwhipp


YEAH! WOW! I DIDN'T REALLY THINK THAT VIRUS WOULD...
AWE-SOME, URD! YOU DID IT!




...FORGET I SAID THAT.
UH...

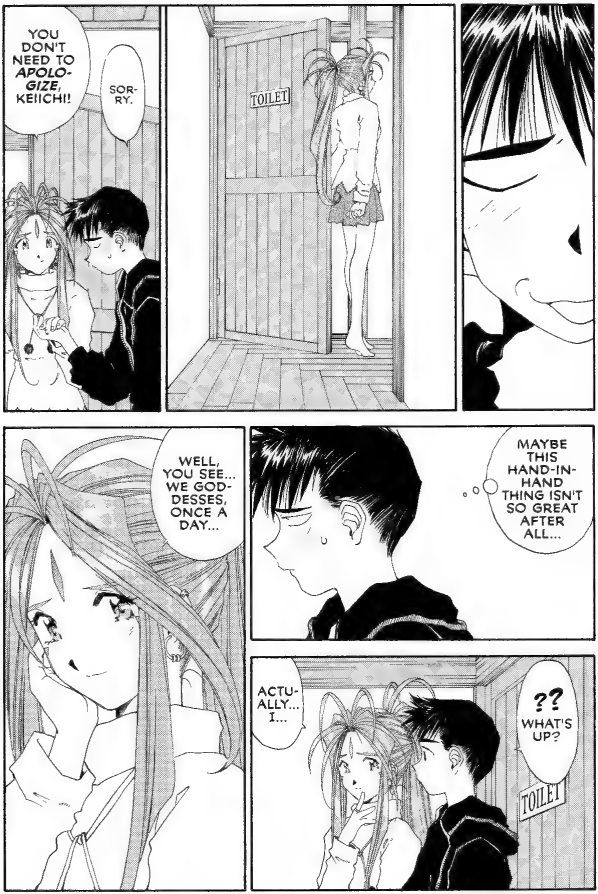

giggle
WHY DO YOU EVEN KEEP THINGS LIKE THAT AROUND ?!
WELL, IF WE, LIKE, CRASH HER SPELL PROGRAM, THEN...
A VIRUS PROGRAM ?!
WHAT ?!

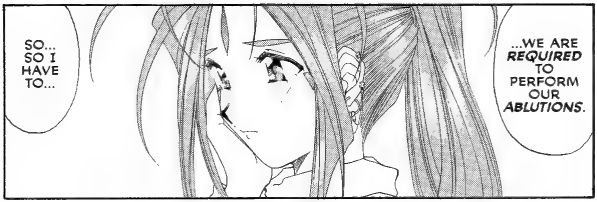

BUT... IT WORKED. SO WE FORGIVE YOU.
MEANING, SHE WAS HOPING FOR SOME GUINEA PIGS.
PURE FASCINA-TION!

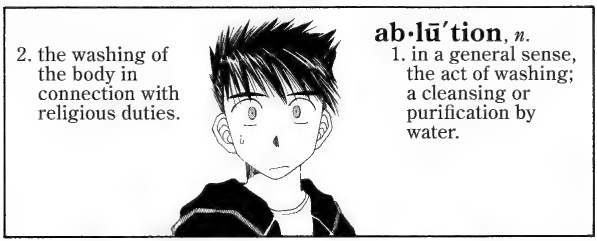
SO LET GO ALREADY... PERVERT !!
THUMP
...
UNH!

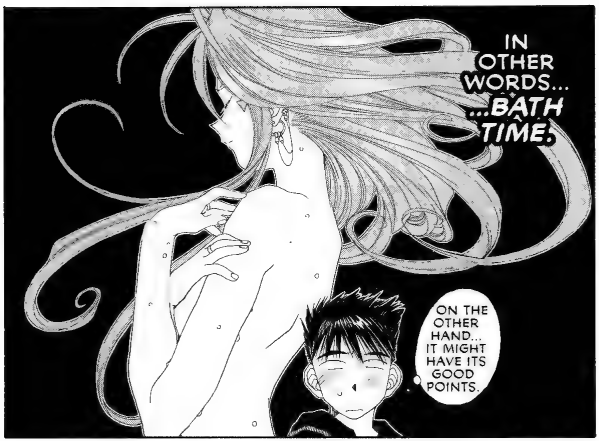
SPLISH
SKRAK SKRAK SKRAK
ONLY ONE THING TO DO, THEN!
IT DIDN'T DO A THING, URD!
IT WAS ONLY BECAUSE I PUT MY OTHER HAND THERE!
THAP
もやぁ～ん
fsssshh
WELL, THAT'S A RELIEF.
PEE-YEWW!
ALL GONE!
ドリュッ
FWOOOSH
I DON'T THINK SO!
HEH, HEH... TIME FOR SKULD'S BASIC MATTER SEPARATOR!

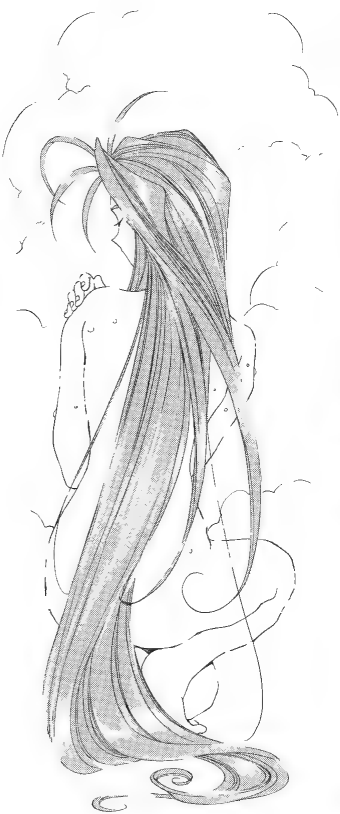
??
KEIICHI...? ARE YOU FEELING *ILL*?
TO
UH-OH. I HADN'T THOUGHT ABOUT *THIS*...
SHE'S RIGHT! WE'RE JUST GOOD *SAMARI-TANS!*
GEE, YOU DON'T NEED TO GET ALL *SNIPPY.* hee hee!

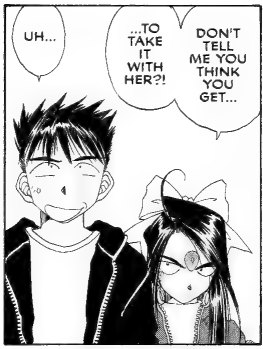

YOU DON'T NEED TO APOLOGIZE, KEIICHI!
SORRY.
TOILET
WELL, YOU SEE... WE GODDESSES, ONCE A DAY...
MAYBE THIS HAND-IN-HAND THING ISN'T SO GREAT AFTER ALL...
ACTUALLY... I...
??
WHAT'S UP?
TOILET

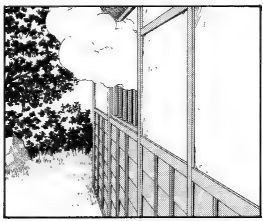

SO... SO I HAVE TO...
...WE ARE *REQUIRED* TO PERFORM OUR *ABLUTIONS*.


ab·lū′tion, *n.*
1. in a general sense, the act of washing; a cleansing or purification by water.
2. the washing of the body in connection with religious duties.


IN OTHER WORDS... ...BATH TIME.
ON THE OTHER HAND... IT MIGHT HAVE ITS GOOD POINTS.

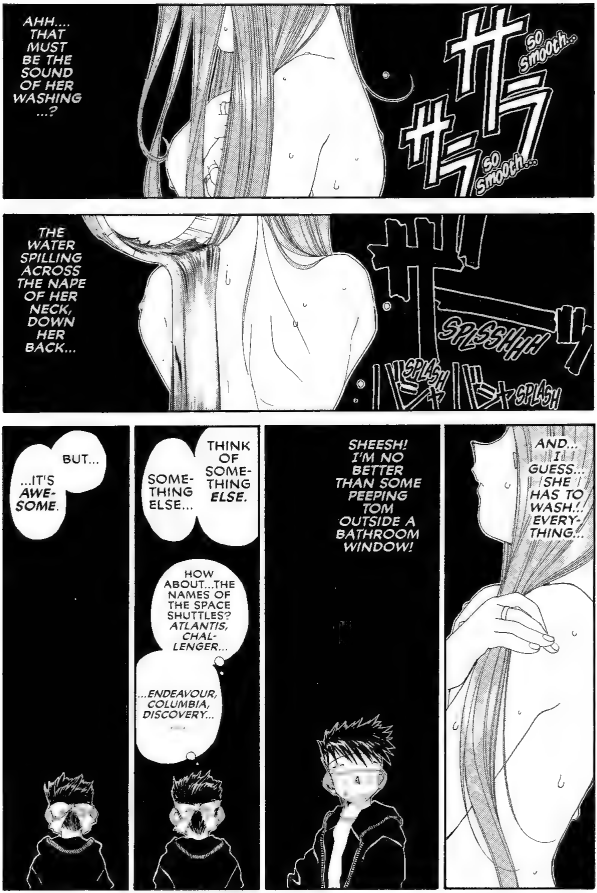


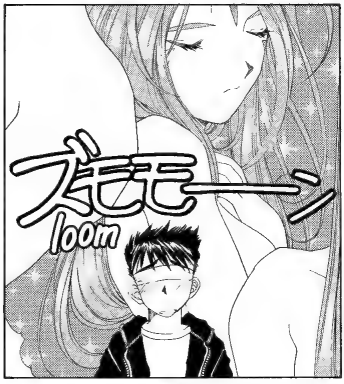

UH...
...TO TAKE IT WITH HER?!
DON'T TELL ME YOU THINK YOU GET...



SPISSHH

I'M SORRY, DEAR, BUT I REALLY *HAVE* TO PERFORM THIS RITUAL!
OH, *NO!* NO *PROBLEM! NONE!*
DAMN... CAN'T SEE A *THING*...
THE SOUNDS THEM-SELVES...
SLSSSHHHH
lub-DUP
PLUNK
BUT... EVEN SO...
SPLASH
lub-DUP
...THE WARM WATER RUNNING DOWN HER HAND...
lub-DUP


AHH.... THAT MUST BE THE SOUND OF HER WASHING ...?
SO SMOOTH...
SO SMOOTH...
THE WATER SPILLING ACROSS THE NAPE OF HER NECK, DOWN HER BACK...
SPLASH!!!
SPLASH!
SPLASH!
BUT...
...IT'S AWE-SOME.
THINK OF SOME-THING ELSE...
SOME-THING ELSE.
HOW ABOUT...THE NAMES OF THE SPACE SHUTTLES? ATLANTIS, CHAL-LENGER...
...ENDEAVOUR, COLUMBIA, DISCOVERY...
SHEESH! I'M NO BETTER THAN SOME PEEPING TOM OUTSIDE A BATHROOM WINDOW!
AND... I GUESS... SHE HAS TO WASH... EVERY-THING...


ズモモーン
loom

ぶるぶる
shake
shake
NO! STOP! DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT THAT!

ぱらり。
AH?!

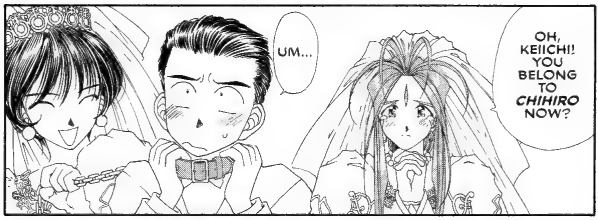
TO THINK THAT RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW, BELL-DANDY IS COM-PLETELY... .....
AND... ONLY A BLINDFOLD BETWEEN US...

SMACK!!

DOES YUH PLEDGE UNDYIN' LUV T' DIS HERE MORISATO GUY?
BELL-DANDY!
CLOSE. TOO CLOSE.
SIZE
HUH ...?

YES!
AH ...?
I DO SO PLEDGE.

OH, NO.
UH... ISN'T THAT SUPPOSED TO BE A RING...?
IN DAT CASE... TAMIYA! DA COLLAR!
A COLLAR WILL SUIT YOU JUST FINE!
?!?
...!
CHAK


OH, KEIICHI! YOU BELONG TO CHIHIRO NOW?
UM...

THEN... GOODBYE, FOREVER! I WAS SO HAPPY, BUT... sniff
NO, WAIT! BELL! DON'T GO!!
rumble...
YOW!!

SO!! JUST WALLOWING IN YOUR *OWN* HAPPINESS, AFTER TURNING ME INTO A MONSTER?!
GRRRRRR!!
YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS!!
HEY! DID I GIVE YOU *PERMISSION* TO TALK?!
C'MON, SORA! YOU CALL THIS *HAPPI-NESS?!*

FARE-WELL, KEIICHI...
BELL-DAN-DYYY !!
OH!
YOU'RE AWAKE!
KEIICHI, HOW DARE YOU EXPLOIT THIS...
HA HA... ...SKULD PLAYS ROUGH...
POOR DEAR... DOES IT HURT?
I KNOWWW ...!
SO... WHO'S TO BLAME? YOU CAUSED IT.

...
NO NO NO!! IT IS NOT !!
MAN... WHAT A CREEPY DREAM...
HOLD ON--IF OUR HANDS ARE STILL STUCK...

...THEN MAYBE SORA *IS* STILL A *GIANT!!*
OH, MY... DID I DO *THAT,* TOO?
UH... WELL... YEAH.
sigh I'M *SO* SORRY.
IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
...
NO, IT'S *NOT.*

ONCE I'M WORKING, LIFE JUST WON'T BE THE SAME...
EVERY-THING IN MY LIFE WAS CHANG-ING.
...I WAS ALL FREAKED OUT.
WHEN IT HAP-PENED...
BUT I STILL WANT TO BE WITH YOU ALL THE TIME. SO...I WISHED FOR THIS.
...ESPECIALLY YOU AND ME HAVING TO BE APART MORE.
NO...
grip
GUESS I NEED TO GROW UP...
THE SHAME-FUL THING...
IT'S NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF.
...ANYONE WOULD BE NERVOUS ABOUT OPENING SUCH A BIG NEW DOOR IN THEIR LIFE.

YOU OPENED IT, KEIICHI... NOW I *KNOW* YOU'LL STEP THROUGH.
...WOULD BE TO LET FEAR *STOP* YOU FROM GOING THROUGH.
GEEZ... HOPE PEOPLE DON'T THINK WE'RE *MARRIED!*
...GET MARRIED TO SUCH A BABE?
HOW'D A SHRIMP LIKE THAT..
YEAH...

WHIRLAND
CHAK
Push
Push
YE-CH!

GREAT... SHE'S BACK TO NORMAL!
WHEW!
SORA ...?
HEY...HEY?! SOMETHING'S *DIFFERENT* BETWEEN MORISATO-SEMPAI AND BELL-DANDY!
NNG?

NO! IT *CAN'T* BE! THEY DIDN'T... *SLEEP TOGETHER LAST NIGHT?!*
URRHN?! IT'S DA *TRUTH!*
HAIR OF THE DOG! WUFF! WUFF!
NAW, NO WAY. NNG... I IS GOT A BAAAD HANGOVER.
えぇ
AWWWWW!
IF YOU'RE NOT A CUSTOMER, *SCRAM.*
WE'RE IN *BUSINESS* NOW.
NOPE! *PARTY'S OVER,* BOYS!
UNLESS, THAT IS... YOU WANT TO *HELP.*

I DO NEED SOME ASSISTANTS.
DOING THE ACCOUNTS...
HELPING CUSTOMERS...
CLEANING THE SHOP...
MINIMUM WAGE, OF COURSE.
UM... CHIHIRO? THEY'VE ALL LEFT.
HMPH!
BUNCHA WIMPS!!
AH! ♥
EH...?
THAT'S GREAT! YOU'LL DO IT ALL?!
I KNEW YOU HAD IT IN YOU, GIRL!

...WITHOUT AN EXTRA PAIR OF HANDS.
SURE! KEIICHI AND I COULD NEVER HANDLE THINGS...
TODAY?
...?
SO! YOU CAN START TODAY.
ぶいん ぶいん whipp whipp
YOU DON'T MIND, DO YOU...?
...?
ぎゅっ

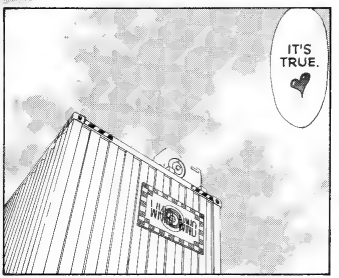
...THEY CAME LOOSE ...?!
WHAT A DISASTER AREA!
EASY TO SAY, BUT WHERE DO WE EVEN START?
HMM. MAYBE SHE WOULD HAVE DONE IT FOR FREE...
ISN'T IT WONDERFUL?!
YAHOO! GREAT!
ALL RIGHT!
YES, MA'AM!
ANYWAY... FIRST OFF, LET'S CLEAN UP THIS MESS.

THE TRUTH IS I DIDN'T WANT US TO BE APART, EITHER.
YEAH?
KEI-ICHI?
WHEW!
IT WAS OBVIOUSLY MY FEELINGS THAT KEPT US STUCK TOGETHER.
sigh I'M SO... SO SELFISH.
A FAILED GOD-DESS...

WANT-
ING
TO BE
HAPPY
ISN'T
"SELFISH,"
BELL.
IF
YOU
BROKE
ANY
RULE...
...IT
WAS
ONLY
NOT BEING
HONEST
WITH
YOURSELF.
YOU'RE
RIGHT.
AND
YOU
KNOW
WHAT
...?

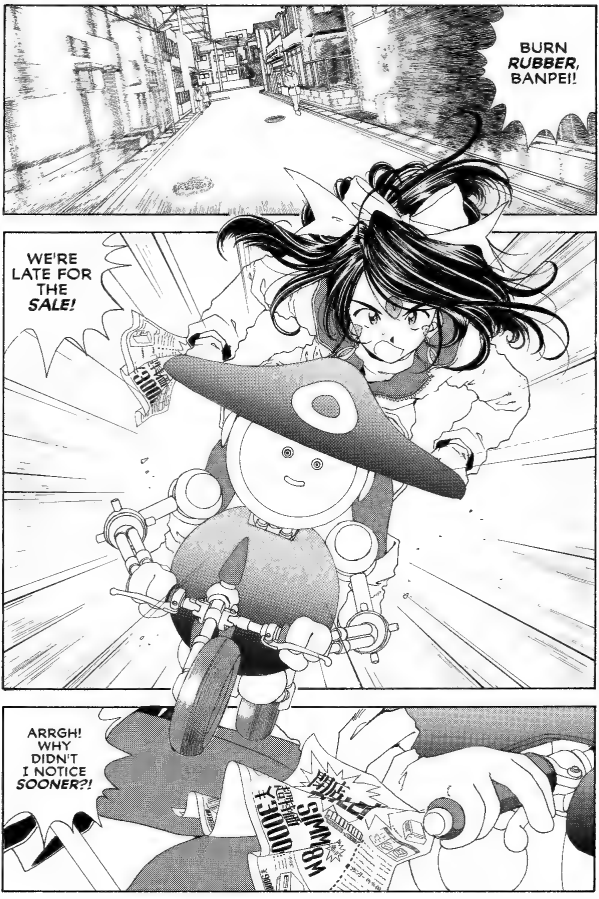
...WHEN WE HOLD THEM, IT SHOULD *ONLY* BE BECAUSE WE *WANT* TO HOLD THEM.
THESE HANDS...

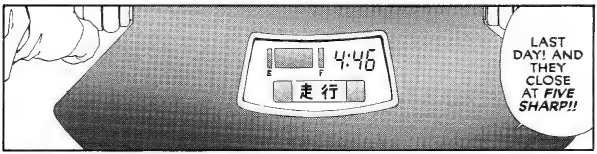
SHUCKS! HE GOT *LOOSE!*
ESPECIALLY WITH *THESE* TWO AROUND.


IT'S TRUE.

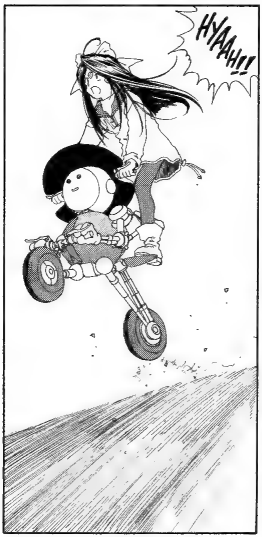
CHAPTER 92

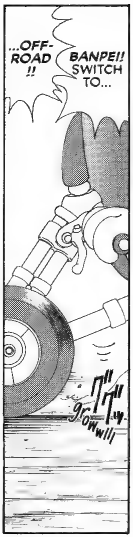
Welcome!

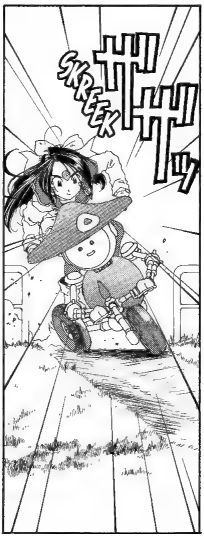

BURN *RUBBER*, BANPEI!
WE'RE LATE FOR THE *SALE!*
ARRGH! WHY DIDN'T I NOTICE *SOONER?!*


4:46
走行
LAST DAY! AND THEY CLOSE AT FIVE SHARP!!

THAT MEANS... THE SHORT-CUT!


HYAAH!!


...OFF-ROAD !!
BANPE!! SWITCH TO...
GROWL!!!

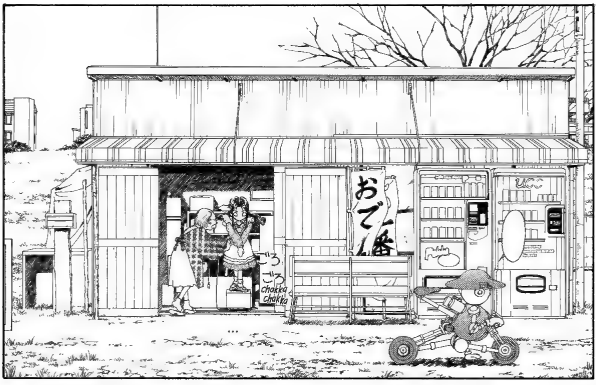

SKREEK

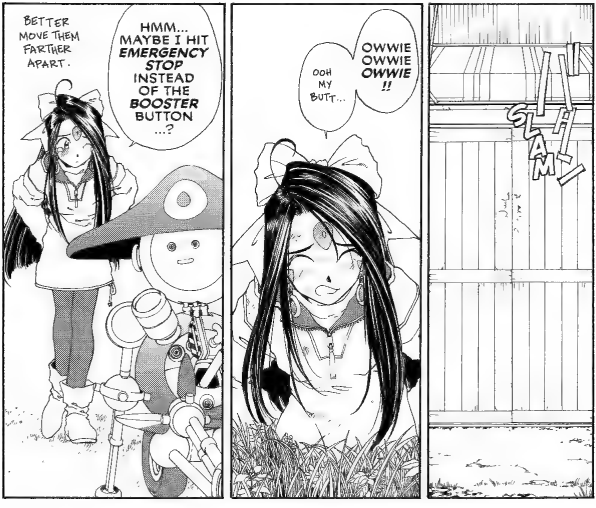
FWHD
SKRRRR
SKRRSSH
WHOOSSSHH
BANPEI! BOOSTER, ON!!
YES!! WE'RE GONNA MAKE IT!

キキ
SKREEEEECH!
EEK!
雪印
雪印
Wel-
come!
:Beep?:
OOF!
SPLISH!

Thank you
For coming
VRRRRRR
Wel-come!

you
ZZK
バチ
バチ
ZZOK
Thank
chnk chnk
じじー
ふぅ
Issshh
すぅ
PWEEE
PWEEE
KCHNK
キュウウ…
For com- ing

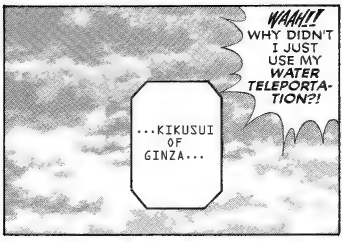

おでん
Chakka Chakka


BETTER MOVE THEM FARTHER APART.
HMM... MAYBE I HIT EMERGENCY STOP INSTEAD OF THE BOOSTER BUTTON ...?
OOH MY BUTT...
OWWIE OWWIE OWWIE !!
SLAM!

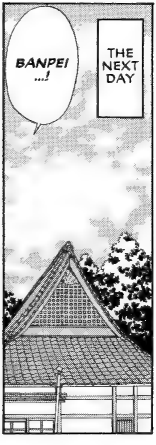
HURRY, BANPEI!
EEK!! THREE MINUTES!
SKRRSSH
TICK
TICK TICK
BREEEEEP!
THE TIME AT THE TONE WILL BE...
...FIVE P.M. EXACTLY.

...

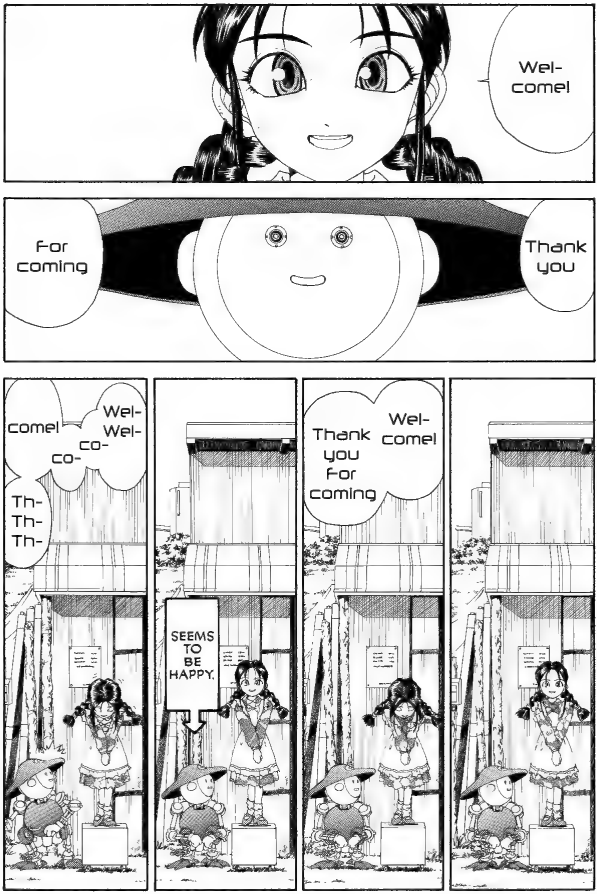
THIS MESSAGE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
CLOSED FOR REMODELING PLEASE COME AGAIN


WAAH!! WHY DIDN'T I JUST USE MY WATER TELEPORTATION?!
...KIKUSUI OF GINZA...

BANPEI, WHERE AAAARE YOU?!

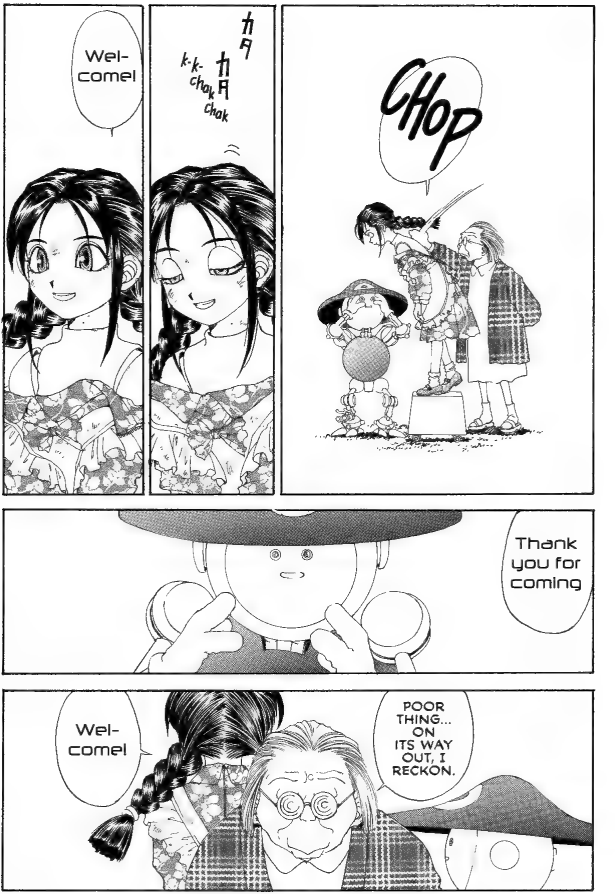

THE NEXT DAY
BANPEI ...!

HMM... DON'T TELL ME...
YEAH. DIDN'T YOU SEND HIM TO GET SOME-THING?
HE DID?
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR HIM, HE TOOK OFF A WHILE AGO.
...HE'S GOT A BUG IN HIS PROGRAM ..?!


Wel-
come!
Thank
you
For
coming
Wel-
come!
Thank
you
For
coming
Wel-
Wel-
co-
co-
Th-
Th-
Th-
come!
SEEMS
TO
BE
HAPPY.

C-
C- C-
com-
for
F-
F- F-
F-
-ing
-ing-
-ing
Uhh...
Uhh...
OH, DEAR... THERE IT GOES AGAIN...
ng-
ng-
ng...
MY HUSBAND FOUND IT IN SOME JUNK HEAP AND FIXED IT UP, BLESS HIS POOR DEPARTED SOUL...

ぐるん
slip
NOW... THIS USUALLY WORKS...
--YAHI!--
HAIEE--

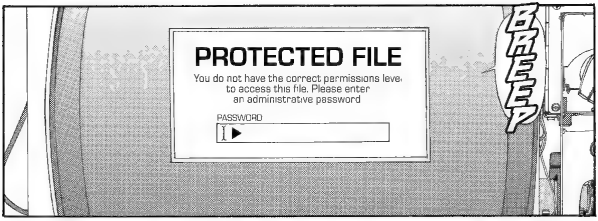

Wel-
come!
k-k-
chak
chak
CHOP
Thank
you for
coming
Wel-
come!
POOR
THING...
ON
ITS WAY
OUT, I
RECKON.

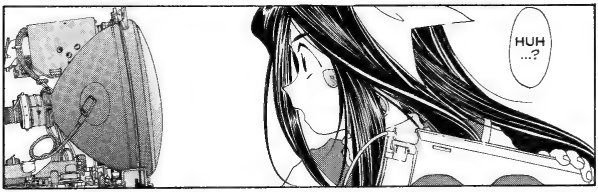
SEEMS TO BE VERY, *VERY* HAPPY.
Thank you for com-ing
ラーメン
やきそば

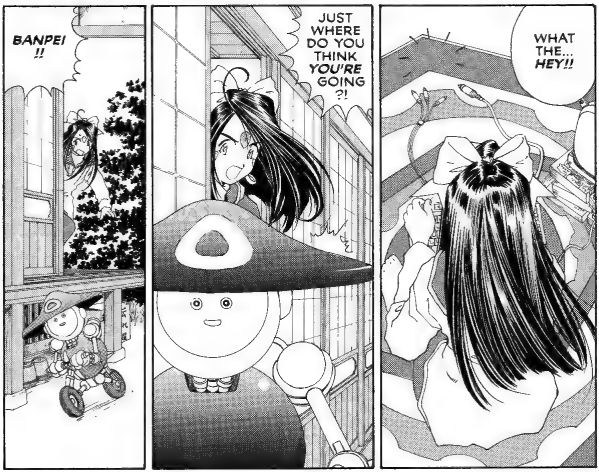
AND WHERE HAVE *YOU* BEEN ?!

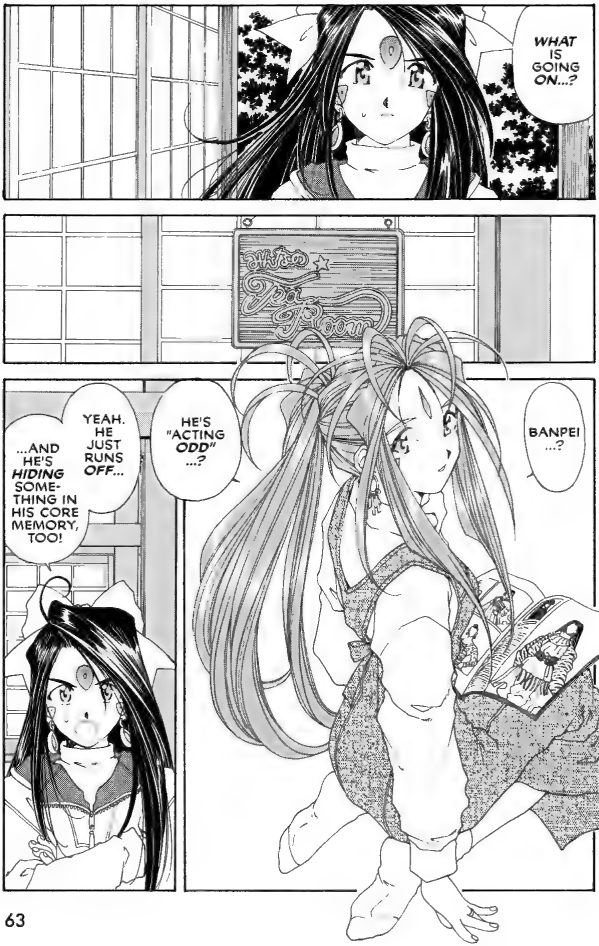
LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THAT *MEMORY* OF YOURS... SHALL WE?

SKULD LABS
tak tak tak
...IT'S GOT TO BE A BUG IN THE PROGRAM.
IF BANPEI'S RUNNING OFF ON HIS OWN...
ki.ik

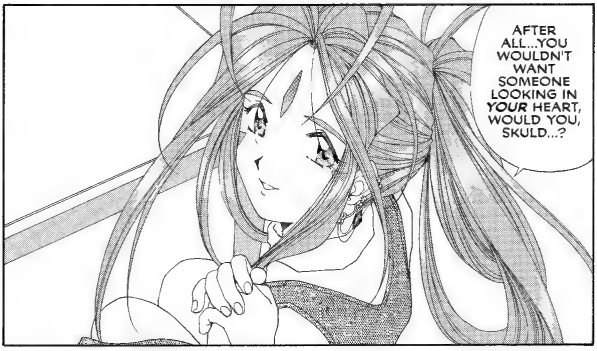

PROTECTED FILE
You do not have the correct permissions level to access this file. Please enter an administrative password
PASSWORD
BEEP

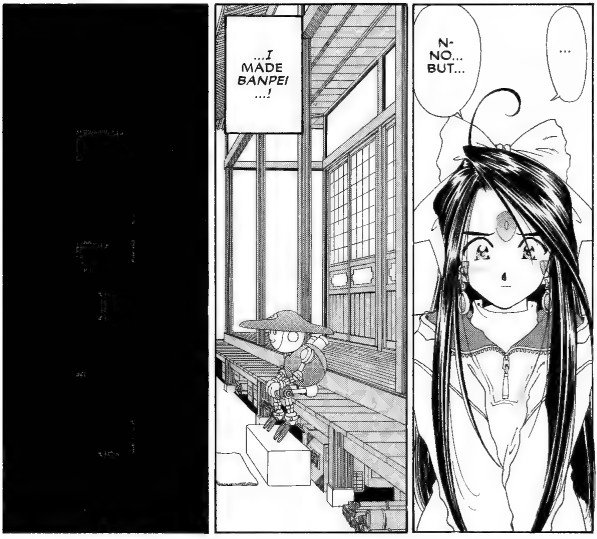

HUH ...?

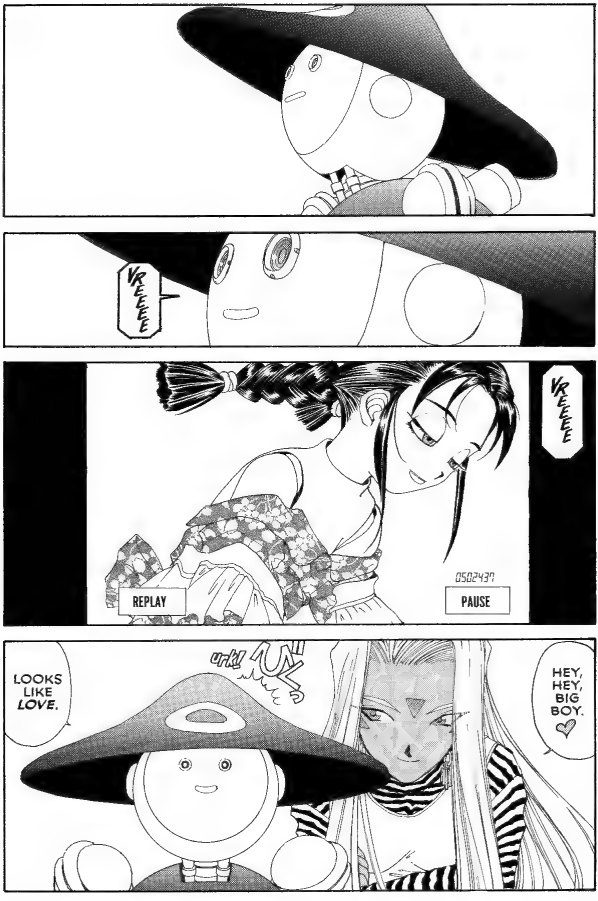

BANPEI !!
JUST WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING ?!
WHAT THE... HEY!!


WHAT IS GOING ON...?
Master Bedroom
BANPEI ...?
HE'S "ACTING ODD" ...?
YEAH. HE JUST RUNS OFF...
...AND HE'S HIDING SOME-THING IN HIS CORE MEMORY, TOO!

I DON'T THINK IT'S A BUG.
YOU KNOW SOME-THING, SKULD ...?
HE MUST HAVE A PRETTY BAD BUG, SO IF YOU SEE HIM...
...JUST TURN HIM *OFF*, OKAY?
HUH ...?
MY ADVICE IS TO JUST *LEAVE HIM BE*, DEAR.
IF YOU *KNOW* SOME-THING, BIG SISTER, *TELL* ME!
THEN *WHY?*

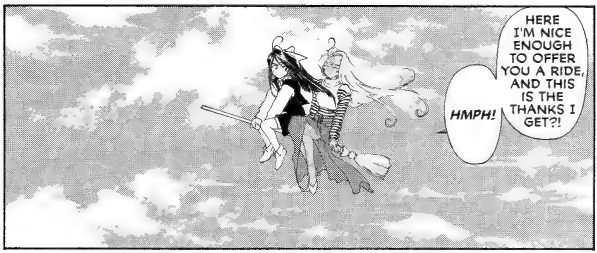

AFTER ALL...YOU WOULDN'T WANT SOMEONE LOOKING IN *YOUR* HEART, WOULD YOU, SKULD...?

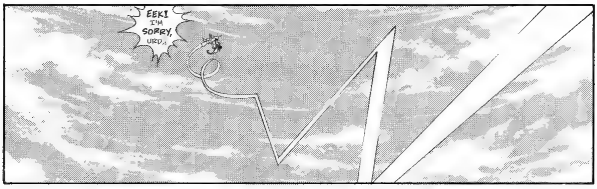

...
N-NO... BUT...
...I MADE *BANPEI*...!


VREEEE
VREEEE
REPLAY
050237
PAUSE
HEY, HEY, BIG BOY.
ork!
LOOKS LIKE LOVE.

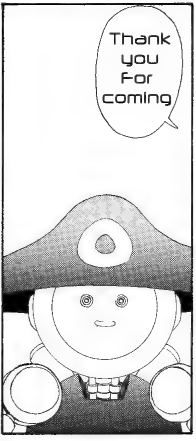
...IT CAN BE FUN... IF IT'S SOMEONE ELSE SUFFERING!
LOVE... SO PAIN-FUL...
AND YET...

ぎゅん
zzeep?
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT TAGGING ALONG JUST FOR FUN.
THERE HE GOES.
OPENING SAL
CD
LD


HERE I'M NICE ENOUGH TO OFFER YOU A RIDE, AND THIS IS THE THANKS I GET?!
HMPH!

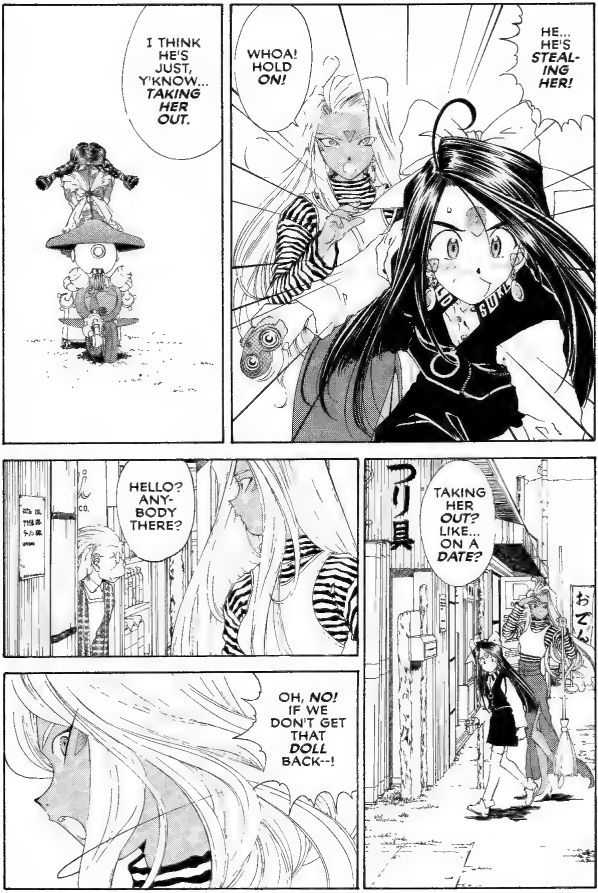

EEK! I'M SORRY, URD!

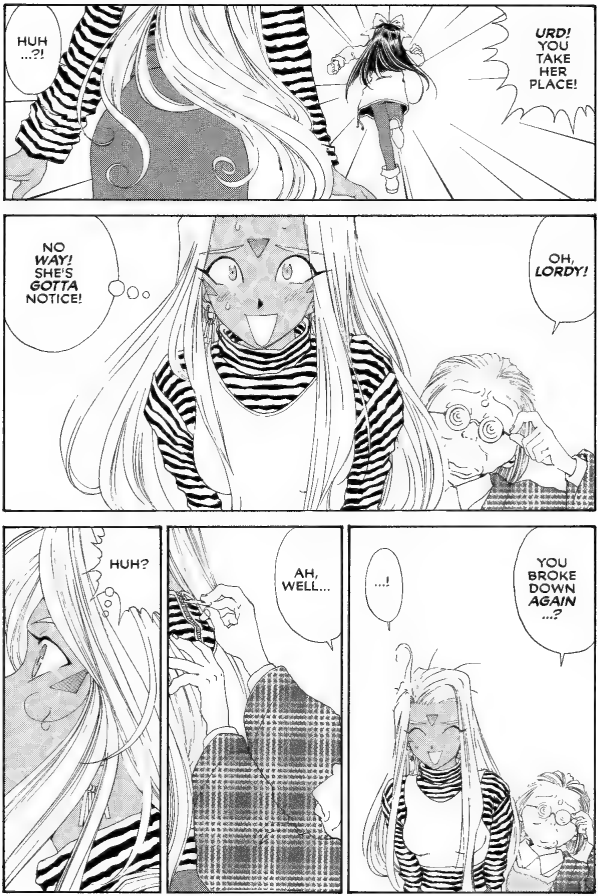
Wel-come!


Thank you for coming

Wel-come!

"LOVERS' LITTLE NOTHINGS" ...LOOKS LIKE.
??
WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY'RE DOING?
HE'S MAKING HIS MOVE!
C'MON... LET'S GO
MAN... WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT.
BOOOORING!
YEAH?! GO FOR IT, BANPEI!
HEY ?!
ガシャン
kashak
ゴロ Gotta Gotta ゴロ
さぁろ さぁろ Nagga Nagga

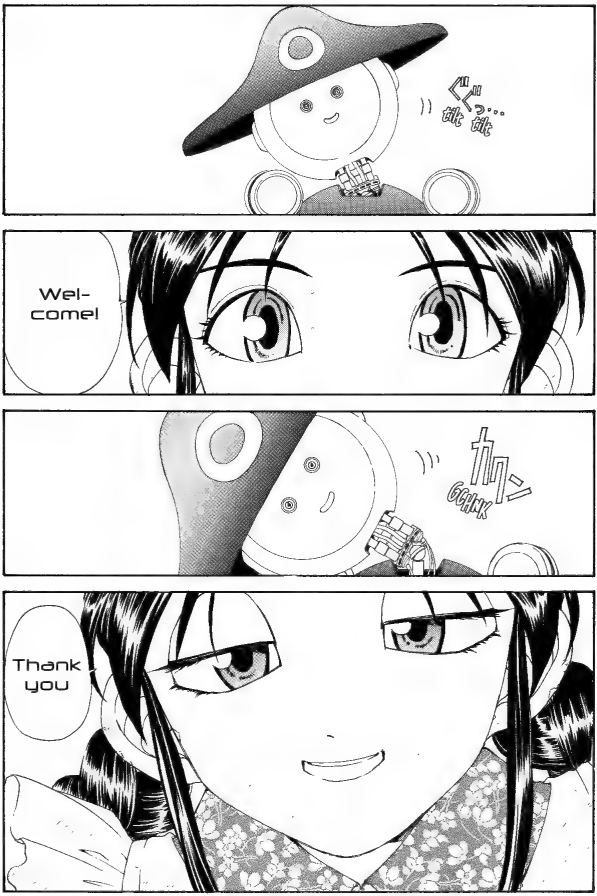

I THINK HE'S JUST, Y'KNOW... TAKING HER OUT.
WHOA! HOLD ON!
HE... HE'S STEALING HER!
HELLO? ANYBODY THERE?
TAKING HER OUT? LIKE... ON A DATE?
OH, NO! IF WE DON'T GET THAT DOLL BACK--!


HUH ...?!
URD! YOU TAKE HER PLACE!
NO WAY! SHE'S GOTTA NOTICE!
OH, LORDY!
HUH?
AH, WELL...
...!
YOU BROKE DOWN AGAIN ...?

slip
EEK!
@メロ〜ン
CHOP

NOW THAT'S ODD. USUALLY ONE DOES IT...
UH...
ER...
HAFF!
HAFF!
TH-
TH-
--THANK YOU FOR COMING!
kchik

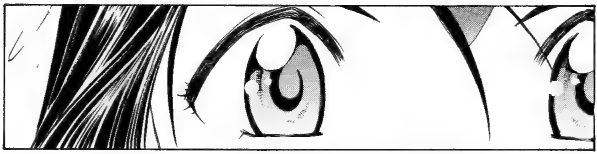
W... Wel-come!
Thank you for coming
kyun
k-k-chak chak

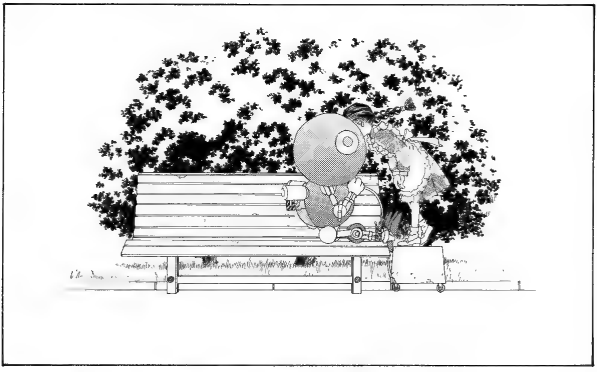

Wel-
come!
Thank
you

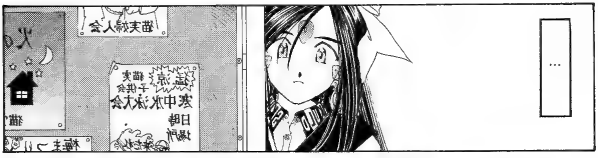
for coming
…
猫実婦人会
猛涼 猫実子供会
寒中水泳大会
日時
場所
梅まつ
3/9 ～ 3/

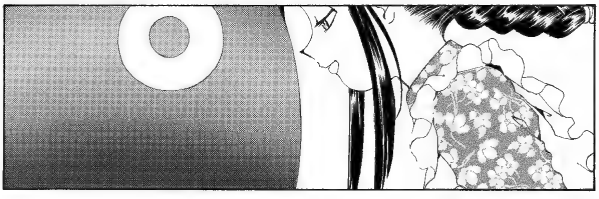
CHAPTER 93

The Sorrows of Banpei

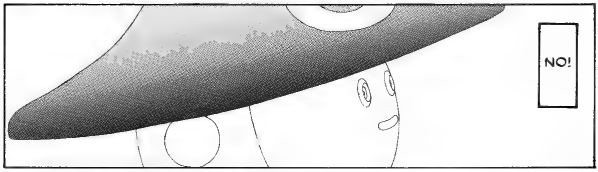






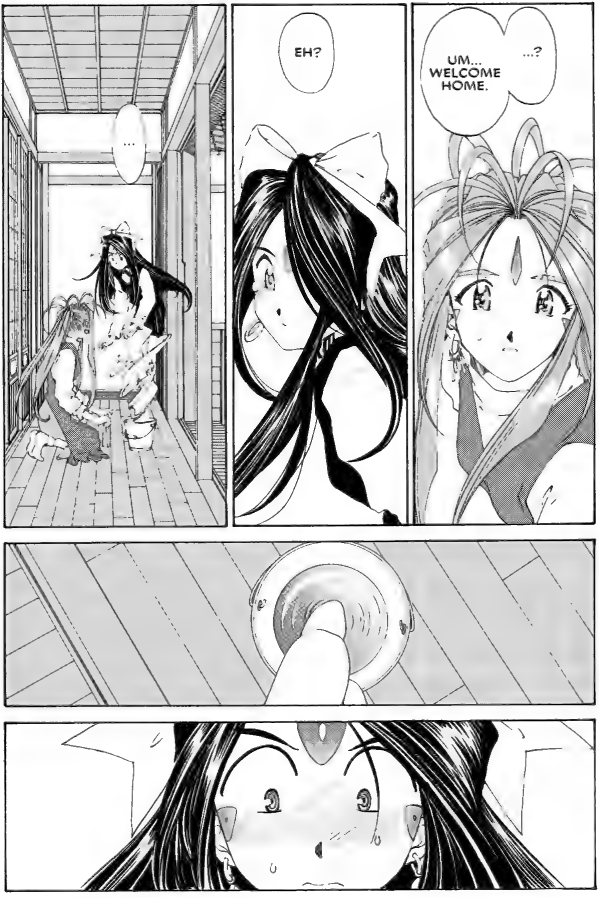


NO!


NO!

NO!
NO!!
NO!!

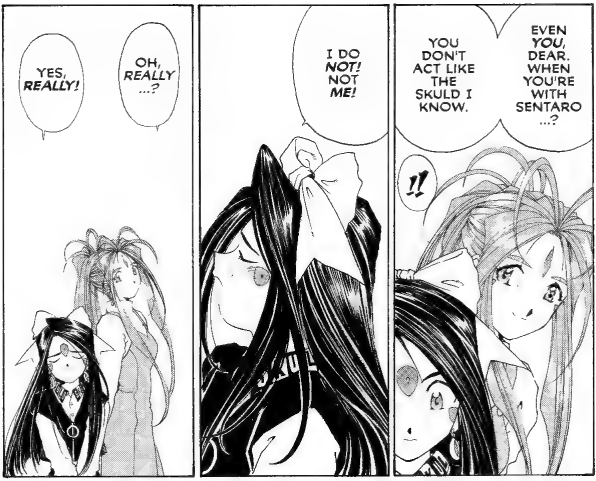
THAT'S DISGUST-ING!!
SBLOSH
SIGHH


...
EH?
UM... WELCOME HOME.
...?

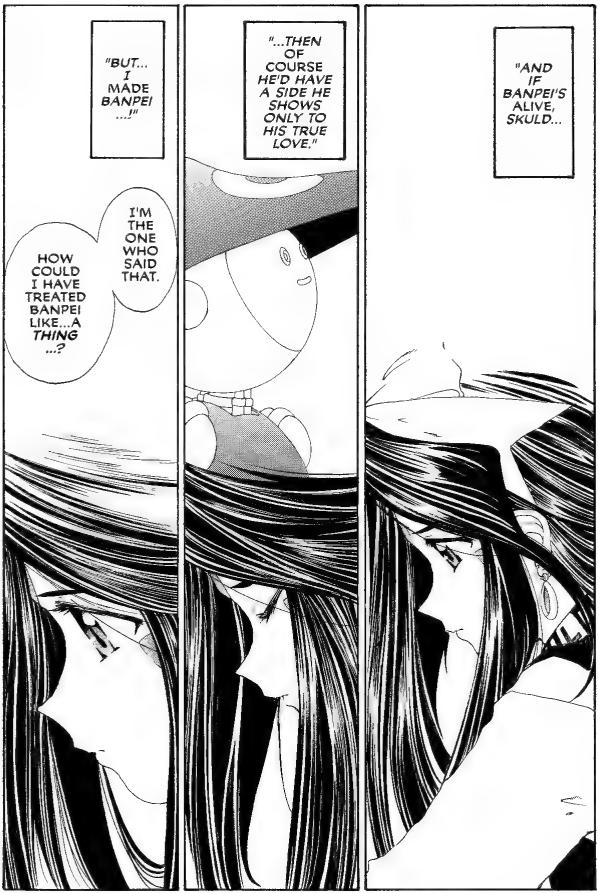
EEEW!
THAT'S DISGUSTING!!
I SEE.
IT'S A PROGRAMMING BUG. IT'S GOTTA BE.
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM LIKE THAT BEFORE...
MY BANPEI...
I THINK...
...YOUR PROGRAM'S PERFECT.

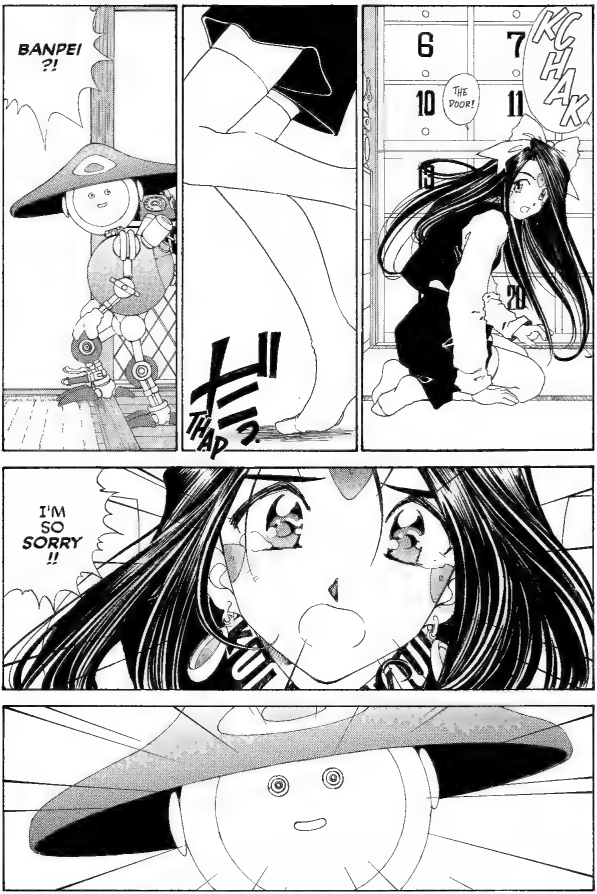
HUH? BUT...

ANYONE WHO FALLS IN LOVE...
...HAS A SIDE OF THEM-SELVES THEY ONLY SHOW THAT *SPECIAL PERSON*.
ONE THE REST OF US *NEVER* SEE.


YES, REALLY!
OH, REALLY ...?
I DO NOT! NOT ME!
YOU DON'T ACT LIKE THE SKULD I KNOW.
EVEN YOU, DEAR. WHEN YOU'RE WITH SENTARO ...?
!!
?
...AT LEAST ONE THING IS CLEAR, NOW.
BUT...

BANPEI...
...IS ALIVE.
SKULD LABS

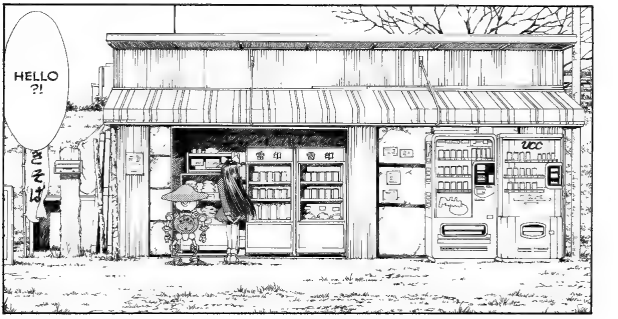

"AND IF BANPEI'S ALIVE, SKULD...
"...THEN OF COURSE HE'D HAVE A SIDE HE SHOWS ONLY TO HIS TRUE LOVE."
"BUT... I MADE BANPEI ...!"
I'M THE ONE WHO SAID THAT.
HOW COULD I HAVE TREATED BANPEI LIKE...A THING ...?


BANPEI ?!
THUD
KCHAK
6
7
10
11
THE DOOR!
I'M SO SORRY !!

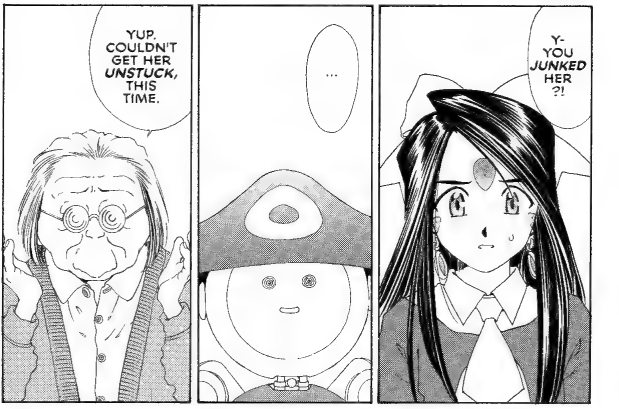
KANGG
THAT DARN HAT!
OWW!!
?!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE APOLOGI-ZING FOR...

BUT I THINK YOU SHOULD START WITH ME!
OH NO! I FORGOT !!
HEH, HEH... NOT THAT I PLAN TO FORGIVE YOU IN ANY CASE!
いやーっ NOOOO!
ごめんなさーい I'M SORRY!

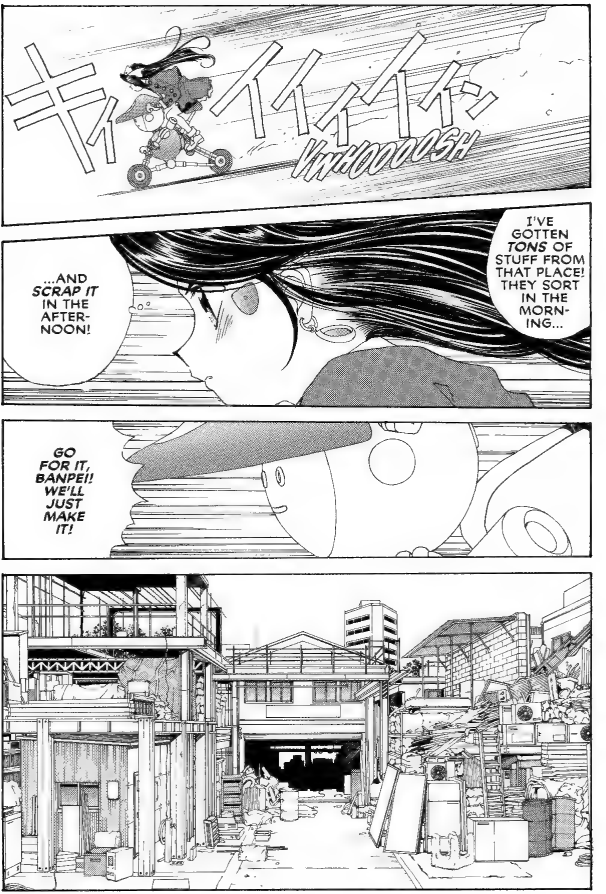
THE NEXT DAY
BRRRNNNG
YES?
OH, CHIHIRO.
WHAT? RIGHT *NOW*?
BUT IT'S MY DAY OFF...
GEEZ!
Motor Oil
I WAS GONNA ASK *KEIICHI* TO HELP ME HAUL HER, BUT...
...SO MUCH FOR *THAT*.
GUESS WE'LL MANAGE *SOME-HOW*...

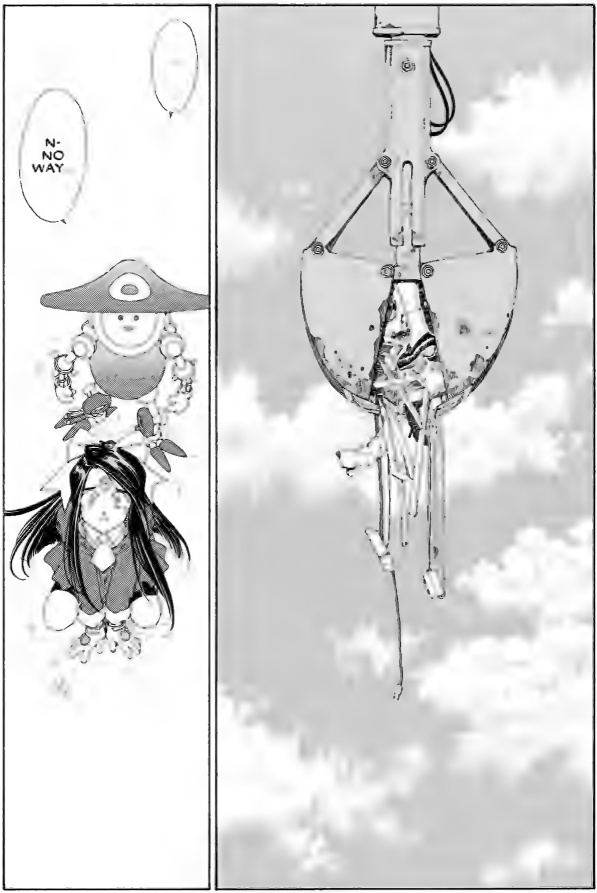

HELLO ?!
そば

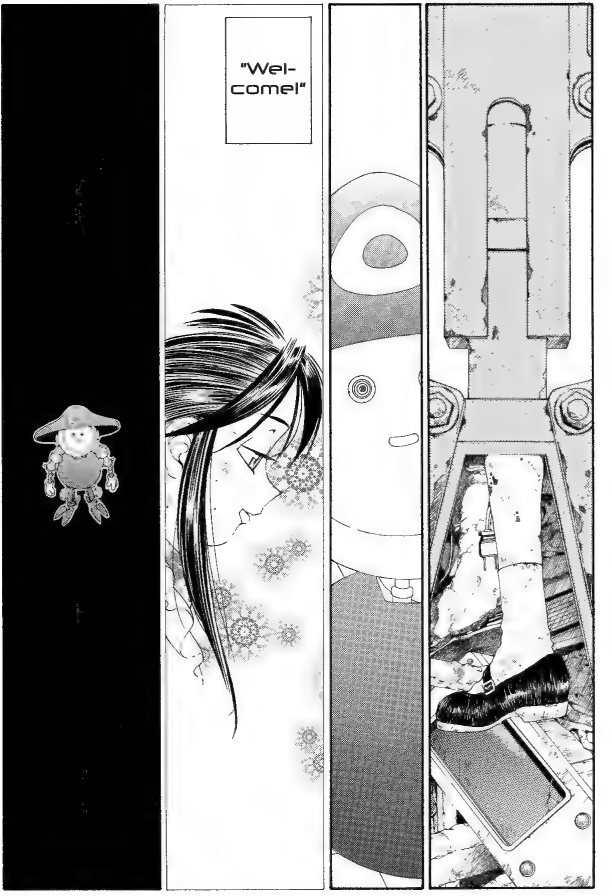
WHA --?!

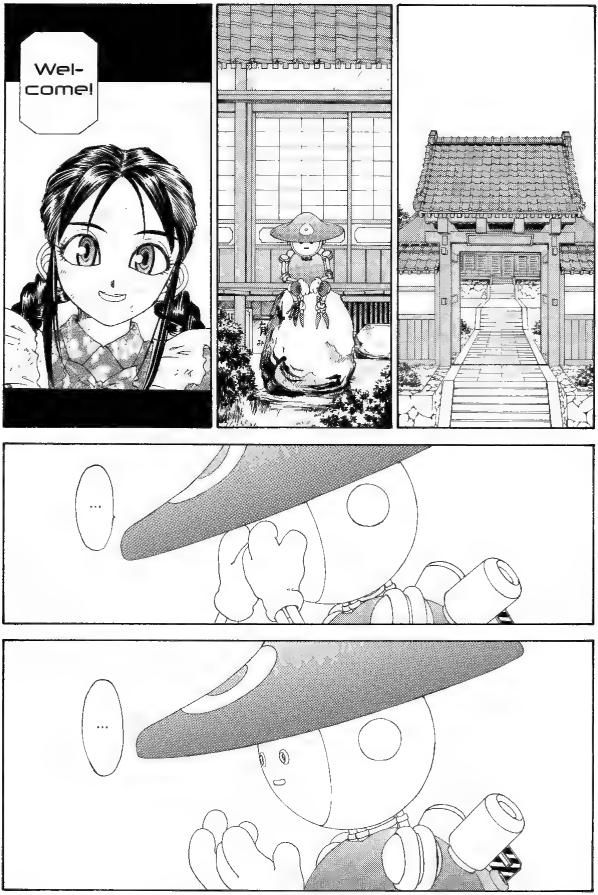

YUP. COULDN'T GET HER *UNSTUCK*, THIS TIME.
...
Y- YOU *JUNKED* HER ?!

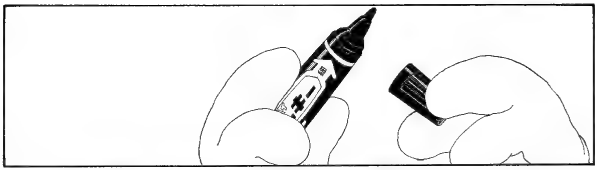
WHERE'D YOU TAKE HER ?!
ER...
...TH' SCRAP YARD OVER BY TH' OLD TRAIN STATION.
HECK, IF YOU WANTED THE DURN THING, ALL Y' HAD TO DO WAS ASK!

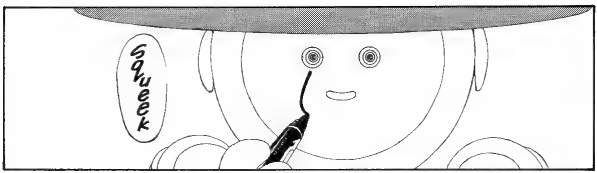

キィィィィィィ
VWHOOOOSH
I'VE GOTTEN *TONS* OF STUFF FROM THAT PLACE! THEY SORT IN THE MORN-ING...
...AND *SCRAP IT* IN THE AFTER-NOON!
GO FOR IT, BANPEI! WE'LL JUST MAKE IT!


N-
NO
WAY

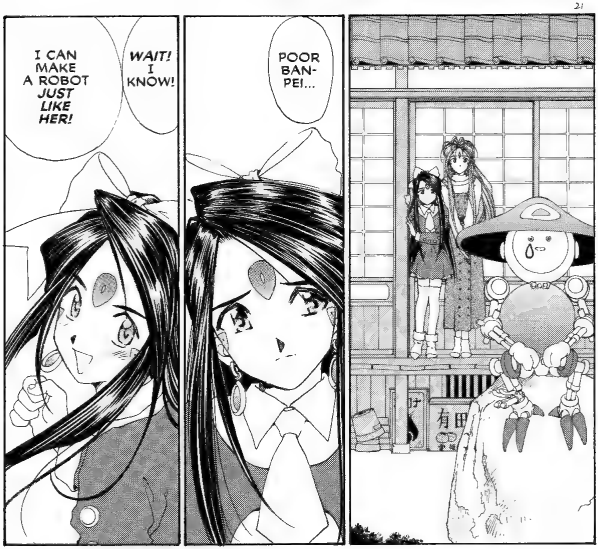

"Wel-
come!"

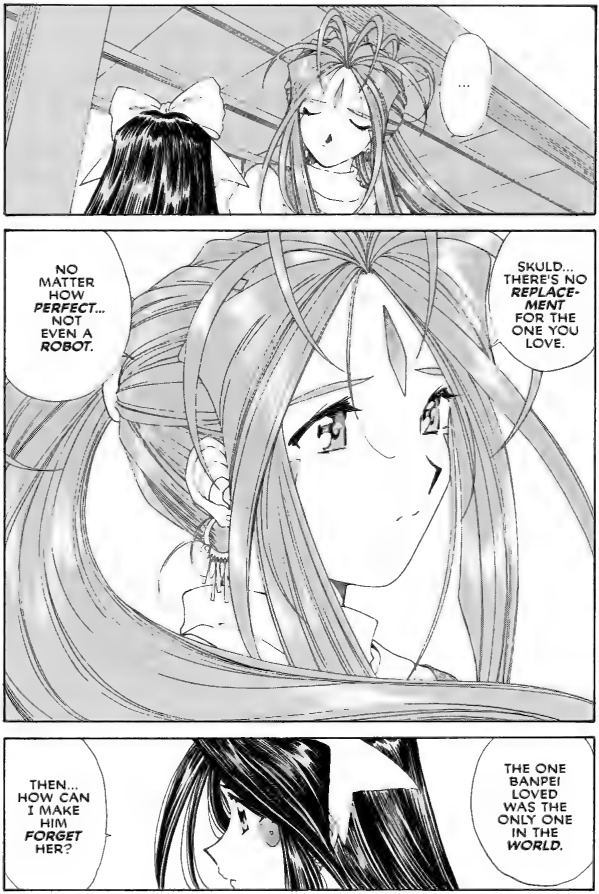

Wel-
come!
...
...

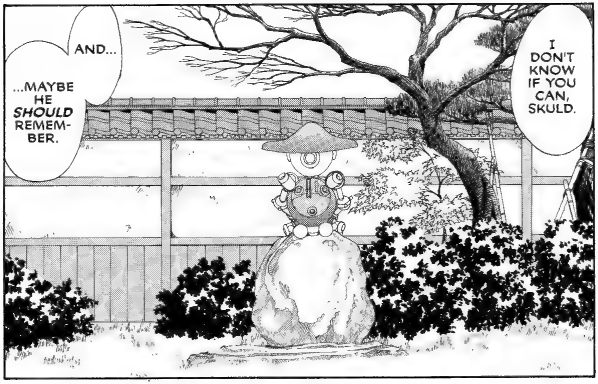


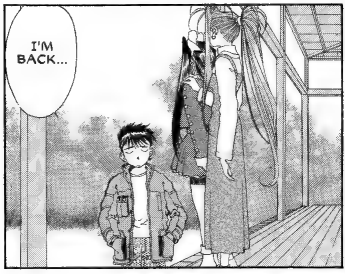

squeek

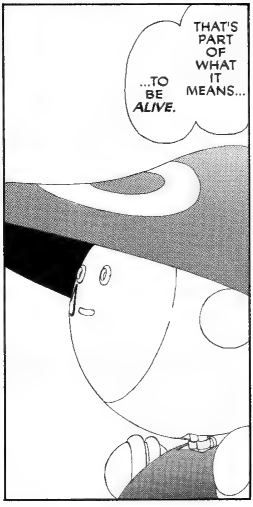
21


I CAN MAKE A ROBOT JUST LIKE HER!
WAIT! I KNOW!
POOR BAN-PEI...


...
SKULD... THERE'S NO REPLACE-MENT FOR THE ONE YOU LOVE.
NO MATTER HOW PERFECT... NOT EVEN A ROBOT.
THE ONE BANPEI LOVED WAS THE ONLY ONE IN THE WORLD.
THEN... HOW CAN I MAKE HIM FORGET HER?


I DON'T KNOW IF YOU CAN, SKULD.
AND...
...MAYBE HE *SHOULD* REMEMBER.

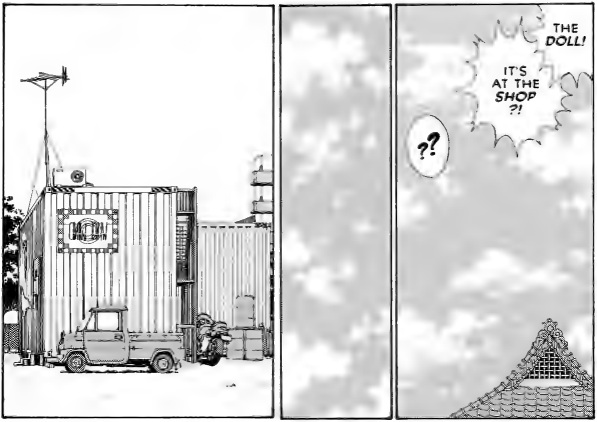

I'M BACK...


THAT'S PART OF WHAT IT MEANS...
...TO BE *ALIVE.*

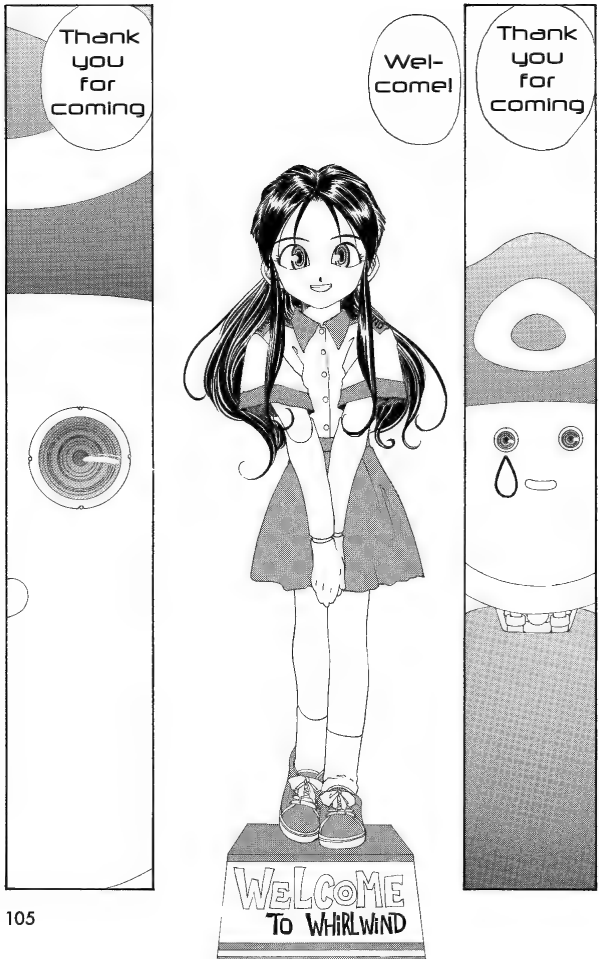
YEESH... WHAT A *PAIN.*
WELCOME HOME!

A DOLL ...?!
THIS OLD MECHANICAL DOLL SHE FOUND SOMEWHERE.
"FIX IT," SHE SAYS!
?
SHE DRAGS ME ALL THE WAY OUT THERE ON MY DAY OFF, AND FOR WHAT?
...?!
"WELCOME! THANK YOU FOR COMING," IT SAYS, OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
YEAH, A TALKING-ROBOT SORT OF THING.
Look
Weird
...IT'S GOT AN ACTUAL RECORD PLAYER IN IT!!
IT KEPT SKIPPING, SO I LOOKED INSIDE AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT...

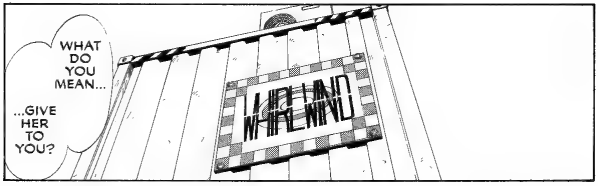
SO I TOOK THE RECORD OVER TO CAMPUS AND TRANSFERRED IT TO A DIGITAL
HUH? WHAT?

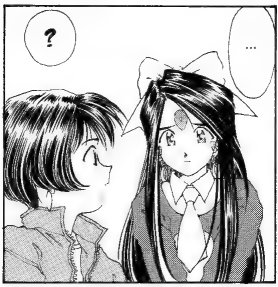

THE DOLL!
IT'S AT THE SHOP ?!
??

HEY, I THOUGHT YOU WENT HOME!
UH... ...ABOUT THAT ROBOT...
YOU'VE STILL *GOT* HER, *RIGHT* ?!
UM... ...YOU MEAN *THIS?*
Wel-come!


Thank you for coming
Wel-come!
Thank you for coming
WELCOME
TO WHIRLWIND

Wel-
come!


WHAT DO YOU MEAN...
...GIVE HER TO YOU?
WHIRLWIND


?
...

Thank you for coming
I KIND OF LIKE HER, YOU KNOW.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.
WELCOME TO WHIRLWIND

AND AS FOR THE REST...
OKAY!! I HAVE SOME MONEY, SINCE I MISSED THE SALE...

...I CAN PAY BY USING... MY OWN BODY!
SKULD, DEAR?
YOU MEANT TO SAY, "I'LL WORK FOR IT."
OH, YEAH...
THANK GOD.
VERY WELL.
ポチッ

I'M DEFENSE-LESS AGAINST PETS... AND KIDS.
"KIDS" ...?
REALLY ?!
SHE'S ALL YOURS, KIDDO.
HOWEVER! THERE IS ONE CONDITION.
sighhh
THAT'S OUR CHIHIRO.
DON'T DO IT.. RESIST..

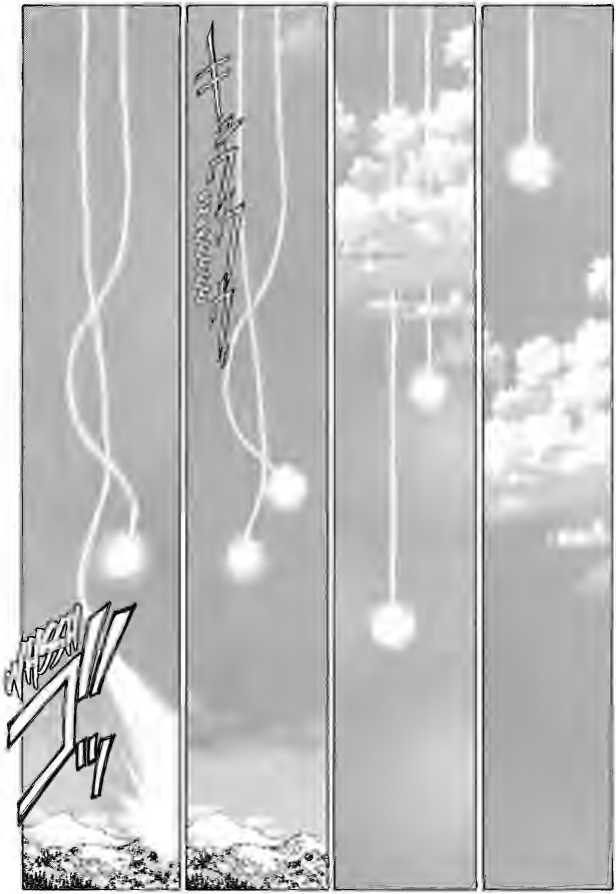
EX-CUSE ME?
Welcome!
WHAT?
Welcome!
BUT...
YEAH. ME TOO.
IT'S DRIVING ME CRAZY, SKULD.
Thank you for coming
Welcom
Th k you fo coming

...I'M SO HAPPY FOR BANPEI!!
HEY?
WAIT A SEC... THAT FOOT ...?

ALL THE PIECES ARE STILL HERE!
SO I CAN FIX IT!
HOW 'BOUT *THIS* ONE?!
BOSS! HEY, *BOSS!*
OH!
EWWUGH!
SO YOU'RE NOT GOING HOME UNTIL YOU FIND ME ONE THAT I LIKE!
♬
YOU *PROMISED,* BUSTER!
HUH? BUT...
DON'T YOU HAVE *ANY* TASTE?!

CHAPTER 94

The Boy Who Knows the Goddesses



WOOSH

RRGH!! NO ONE'S EVER OUTRUN ME BEFORE!
C... CAN'T DO IT! I CAN'T KEEP UP!
?
SHEEEEE
HA HA

WHA—?!
NO,
WAI--
EH
?!
GRAV

B BELL DANDY HEAR ME
THE WORLD

...IS SOME-THING WRONG?

BRRRIIINGG
IT'S OKAY-- I'LL GET IT.
N-NO...
IT JUST FELT LIKE... SOME-ONE *CALLED* ME...
BRR RIIIN GG
HELLO, MORISATO RESI-DENCE...
MY-- MY *LORD* ...?!

I UNDERSTAND. PLEASE WAIT ONE MOMENT.
YES, THEY'RE BOTH HERE.
YES.
ER... I THINK HE'S IN A *HURRY*...
YOU TAKE IT!
WELL? *TAKE IT!*
...

WHAT ?!
GRR...
Hello! who IS it...?
Oh, GOOD-NESS! It's been AGES!

I HEARD THAT!
I UNDER-STAND. RIGHT AWAY.
OKAY, IF THAT'S ALL, IT SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM.
I SURE HOPE NOT..
THINK HE'LL GIVE HER LICENSE BACK...?
I SEE.
BUT THAT'S...
...REALLY? AND WHEN DID IT START?
BUT IT'S STILL SMALL. MOVE FAST, AND IT'LL BE AN EASY FIX.
NO. THERE'S A MALFUNCTION IN THE TIME MANAGE-MENT PROGRAM.

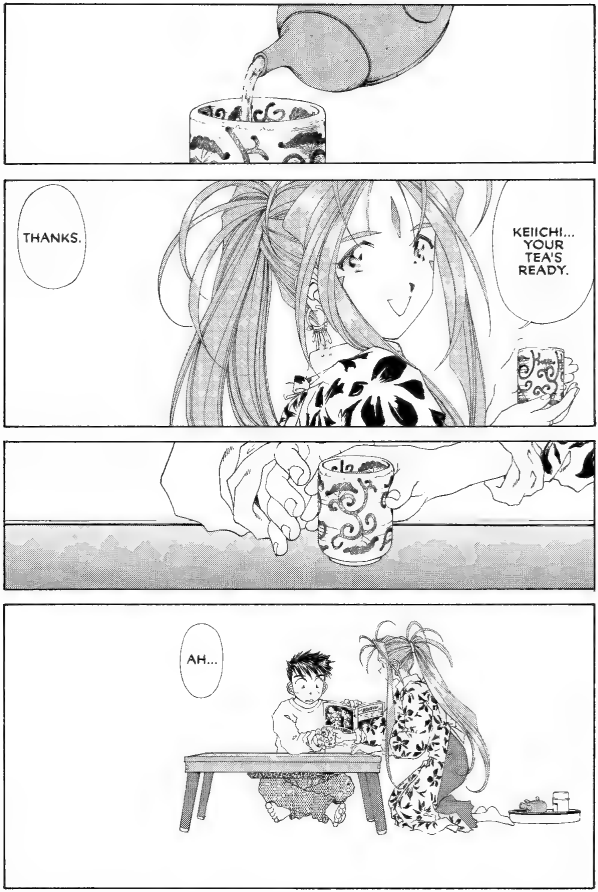
I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE THINKING...
ALL RIGHT! FREE AT LAST!
GO FOR IT! HURRY BACK!
NOT!
YOU'RE GOING, TOO.
WHAT ARE YOU SMIRKING FOR, BRAT?
FWAP
NO JOKE. SO SORRY.
JOKE ...?
...
KUID

どぼーん
SPLASH
AND... IT'S URGENT!
I'LL GET YOU, URD!
THROW-ING ME IN LIKE THAT!
OH, RIGHT--I ALMOST FORGOT!
THE NEW ISSUE OF DOBON GOES ON SALE TODAY!
BELLDANDY! PLEASE BUY IT FOR...

BUT... SHOULDN'T I...
GOT THAT?
MEEEEE
E-Z FIX. BACK IN A FLASH!
DON'T WORRY, SIS.
AND BESIDES... YOU'RE UNDER CONTRACT, REMEMBER?
NOPE. HE JUST ASKED FOR THE TWO OF US.
IT'S JUST THE TWO OF YA, KID.

DON'T WASTE IT!
...THIS COULD GET REALLY NASTY.
I SAID IT WAS NOTHING, BUT...
URD...

WE'RE... ALONE.
AND IF OUR LORD NEEDS BOTH OF THEM...
SHE SAID IT WAS NOTHING, BUT...IT FEELS LIKE SOMETHING BAD.
ふたりきり
WE'RE ALONE!!

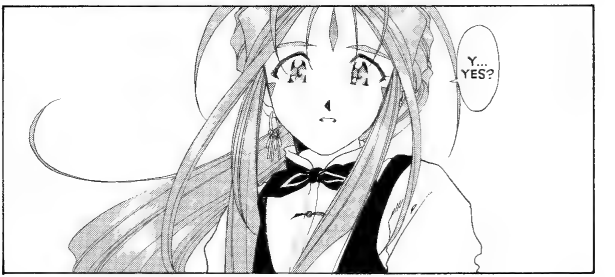

THANKS.
KEIICHI... YOUR TEA'S READY.
AH...

B... BELL-DANDY ...?
KEIICHI...
HEY. STOP IT. DON'T EVEN THINK THAT.
BUT TODAY IT'S... DIFFER-ENT...
SOME-THING ALWAYS RUINS IT.
YEAH, I KNOW.

KRAK
I SAID STOP IT!!
OWW!
HEY!? THAT HURT, DARN IT...
HUH?!
HUH...?

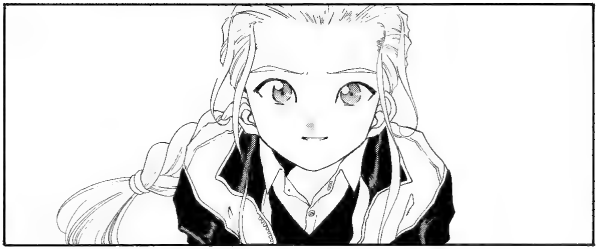
...THIS LITTLE PUNK ...?!

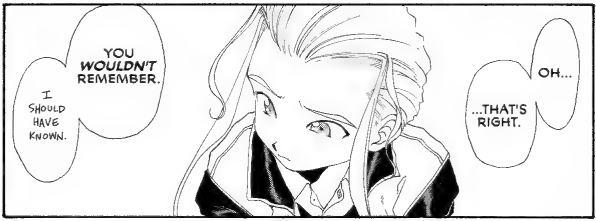
BELL-
DANDY...


Y...
YES?

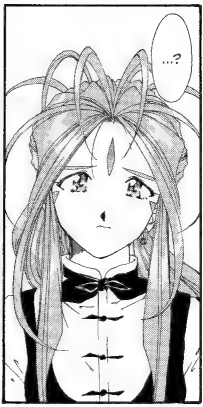
OH, HOW I'VE *MISSED* YOU!!

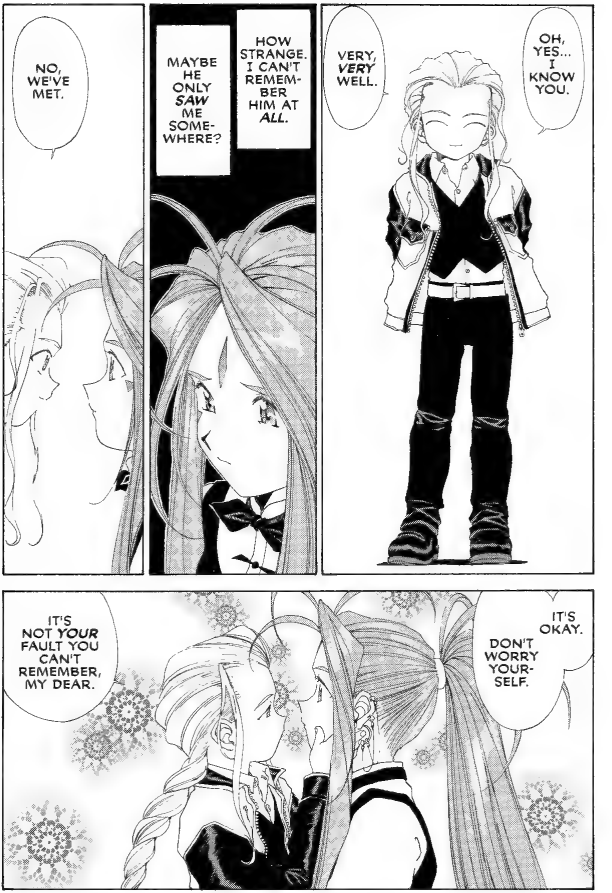
WAIT! COOL IT! HE'S JUST A KID.
EVEN FRIENDS DON'T GET THAT CLOSE!
LET'S YOU AND ME FIGHT, PUNK!
THERE ARE LIMITS, Y'KNOW!
CALM DOWN... CALM DOWN!
OLD FAMILY FRIENDS OR SOME-THING?
GET AWAY FROM HER, DARN YOU!
I WAN-NA DO IT, TOO...
GET OFF OF HER, YOU BRAT!
HEY HEY HEY HEY HEY!!
EX-CUSE ME, BUT...
...WHO ARE YOU?




YOU WOULDN'T REMEMBER.
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN.
OH...
...THAT'S RIGHT.

BUT YOU KNOW ME?


...?


NO, WE'VE MET.
MAYBE HE ONLY *SAW* ME SOMEWHERE?
HOW STRANGE. I CAN'T REMEMBER HIM AT *ALL*.
VERY, *VERY* WELL.
OH, YES... I KNOW YOU.
IT'S NOT *YOUR* FAULT YOU CAN'T REMEMBER, MY DEAR.
IT'S OKAY. DON'T WORRY YOURSELF.

...NOW THAT I'M HERE.
IT'LL ALL COME BACK TO YOU...
...
I'LL MAKE YOU REMEMBER.
?!? AH!
BELL-DANDY!!
OH, MY!
LOOK AT THE TIME-- WE'LL BE LATE TO WORK!
HEY !!
ER... UH...
UM...

WELL, THEN... I'LL COME BACK LATER.
ALL... ALL RIGHT. TAKE CARE OF YOUR-SELF.
SURE.
HEH, HEH!
JEALOUS, ARE YOU?
HOW VERY CUTE.

C'MON, BELL! WE GOTTA RUN!
HUH ...?!
VRMMB

I'M SORRY!! WE'RE LATE!
I KNOW YOU'RE LATE.
YEAH, WELL, UH...THIS WEIRD KID SHOWED UP AT THE HOUSE AND--
WHAT I DON'T KNOW IS YOUR EXCUSE.

YAIEE!!
...
hmmm
"WEIRD KID." HUH? THAT'S NOT VERY NICE.
CHANGED MY MIND. I THOUGHT I'D TAG ALONG.
SORRY.
THIS CHILD...
...
OH ...!

...CARRIES THE BLOOD OF THE GODS ?!

THE TIME I MET YOU IT BEGAN...
THE TIME YOU FORGOT ME, IT CAME TO BLOOM...
AND IF YOU DON'T REMEMBER ME NOW...

CHAPTER 95

Strange Things Are Happening

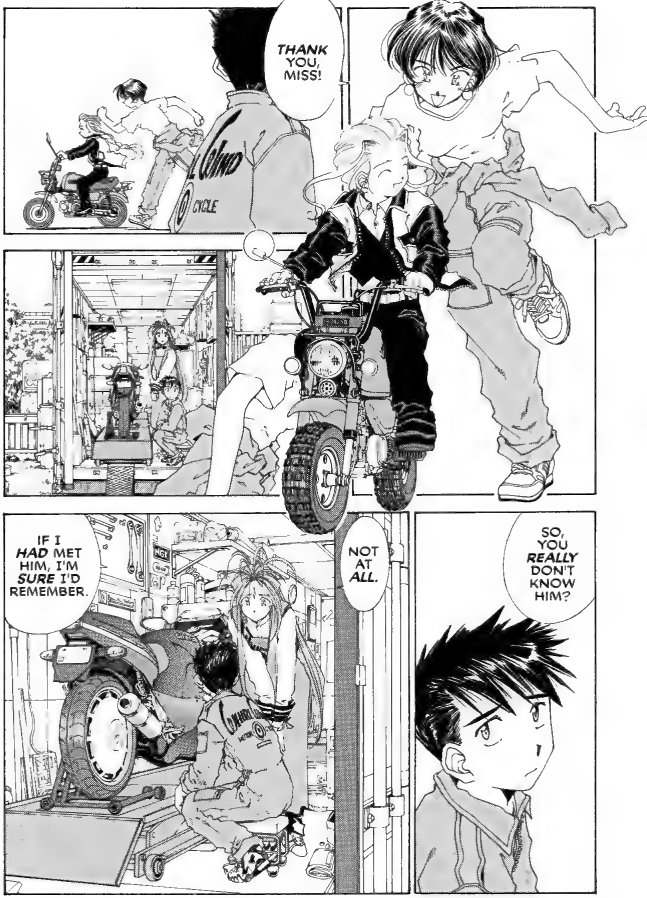
...REMEMBER.
SO PLEASE...
MORISATO!
...

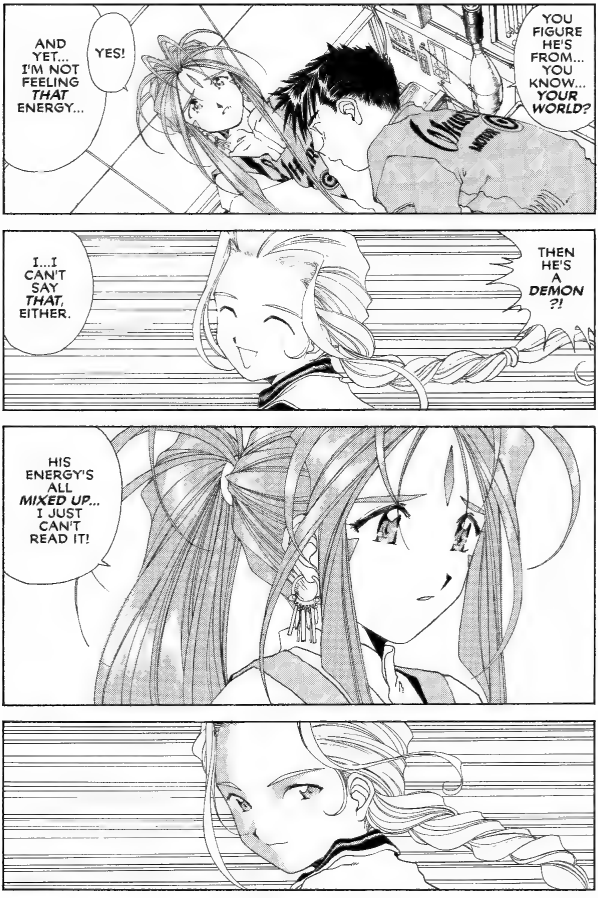
YOU AND BELL BRINGING *YOUR KID* TO WORK, I MEAN.
THIS IS *NOT* ACCEPT-ABLE.
Y-*YES*, MA'AM?
YOU DON'T *REALLY* THINK THAT... DO YOU?
ACTUALLY, NO. NOT AT ALL.

...BEAUTIFUL LADY!
HELLO! NICE TO MEET YOU...
WHY NOT? YOU WISH IT WAS TRUE!
THEN PLEASE DON'T SAY IT.
LOOK AT THAT TOTALLY INNOCENT, PERFECT SMILE!
uh!

SO CAN I PLEASE STAY AND *WATCH?*
I *PROMISE* NOT TO GET IN THE WAY.
IT DOESN'T MATTER *HOW* VULNERABLE YOU ARE TO *KITTIES* AND *CHILDREN*...
wobble
C-*CONTROL* YOURSELF, CHIHIRO!
SORRY ABOUT THIS...I'LL SEND HIM BACK HOME RIGHT--
THAT'S THE *TRUTH!* SO...BE FIRM... BE *STRONG!*
RRG!
IF YOU ACT *SOFT*, YOUR EMPLOYEES WON'T *RESPECT* YOU.
...*THIS* IS A W... *WORK-PLACE.*

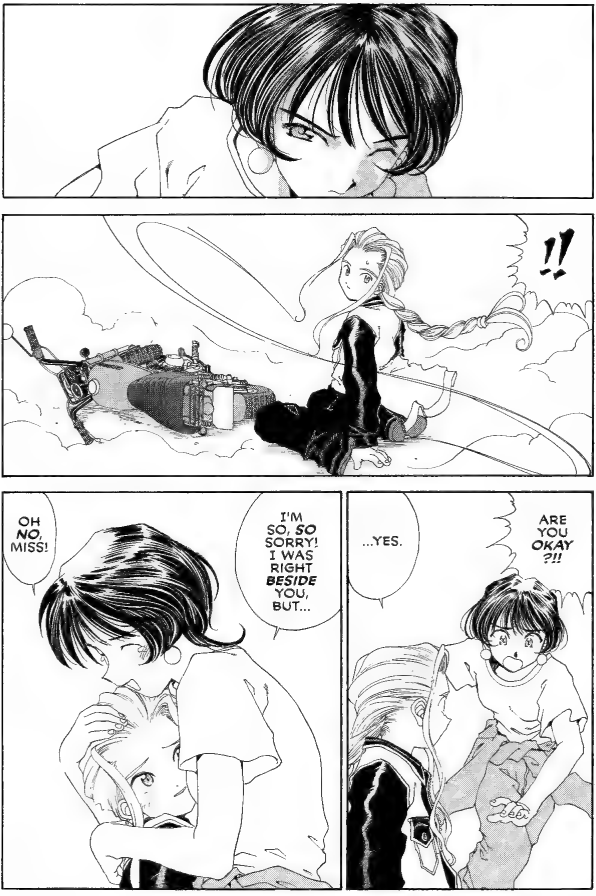
YOU STAY JUST AS LONG AS YOU WANT, HONEY!
NO, IT'S... IT'S OKAY!
YEESH...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
AH HA HA HA HA
WIRELAND
RIGHT! RIGHT! PERFECT!

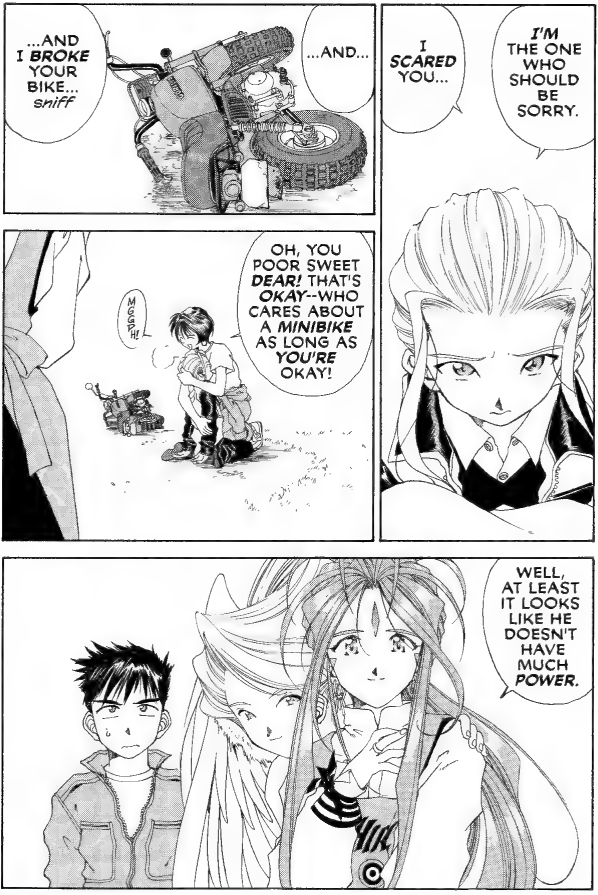

THANK YOU, MISS!
HONDA
CYCLE
SO, YOU *REALLY* DON'T KNOW HIM?
NOT AT *ALL*.
IF I *HAD* MET HIM, I'M *SURE* I'D REMEMBER.


AND YET... I'M NOT FEELING *THAT* ENERGY...
YES!
YOU FIGURE HE'S FROM... YOU KNOW... *YOUR WORLD?*
I...I CAN'T SAY *THAT*, EITHER.
THEN HE'S A *DEMON* ?!
HIS ENERGY'S ALL *MIXED UP*... I JUST CAN'T READ IT!

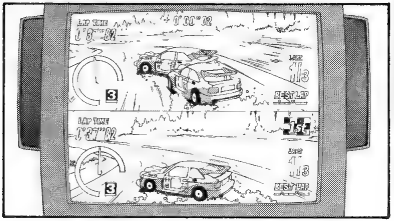
OH, NO!
CHAK
DON'T *PANIC!* ROLL OFF THE THROTTLE!
AAAH! I *CAN'T* !!
THEN HIT THE *REAR BRAKE* !!
BRAAAPP!!

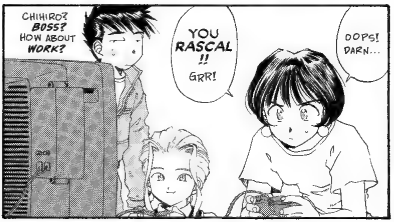
DASH

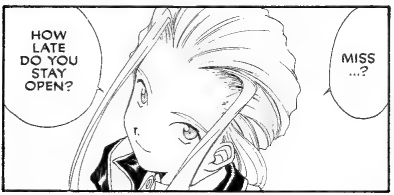

!!
OH NO, MISS!
I'M SO, SO SORRY! I WAS RIGHT BESIDE YOU, BUT...
...YES.
ARE YOU OKAY ?!!


...AND I BROKE YOUR BIKE... sniff
...AND...
I SCARED YOU...
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE SORRY.
OH, YOU POOR SWEET DEAR! THAT'S OKAY--WHO CARES ABOUT A MINIBIKE AS LONG AS YOU'RE OKAY!
MGGH!
WELL, AT LEAST IT LOOKS LIKE HE DOESN'T HAVE MUCH POWER.

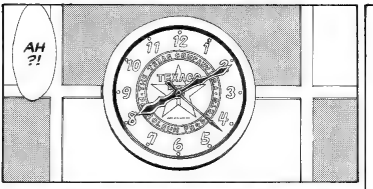
WHIRLWIND



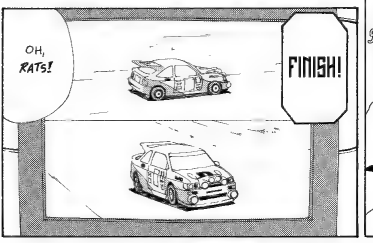

CHIHIRO? BOSS? HOW ABOUT WORK?
YOU RASCAL !! GRR!
OOPS! DARN...


HOW LATE DO YOU STAY OPEN?
MISS ...?

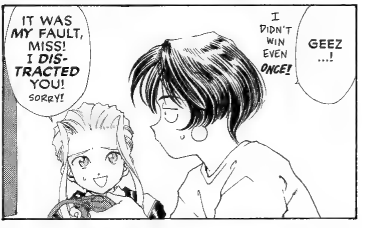
HE SMILED, JUST BEFORE THAT WHEELIE. I'M SURE OF IT!
SO IT WAS... ON PURPOSE?

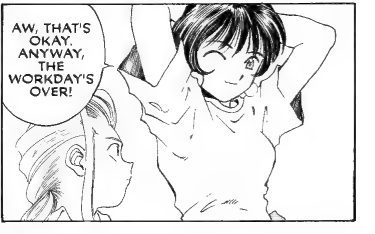

AH ?!

HUH? OH... EIGHT O' CLOCK.
ちらっ


OH, RATS!
FINISH!

HUH?
UM... ACTUALLY CHIHIRO, THERE'S STILL TEN MINUTES TO GO...


IT WAS MY FAULT, MISS! I DIS-TRACTED YOU! SORRY!
I DIDN'T WIN EVEN ONCE!
GEEZ ...!


AW, THAT'S OKAY. ANYWAY, THE WORKDAY'S OVER!

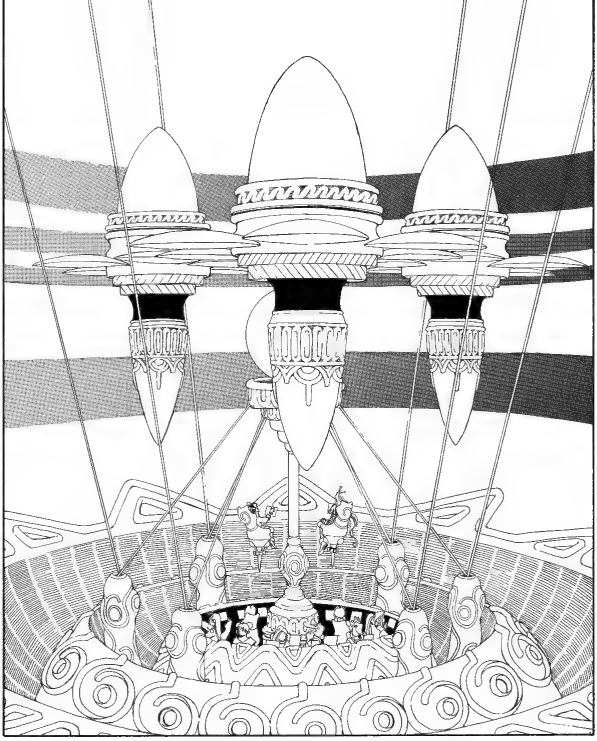
IN MY SHOP, MY CLOCK IS THE LAW!
YES MA'AM! SORRY MA'AM!
I'LL JUST SET IT TO "CHIHIRO TIME"...
SNAP
SNAP
THAT'S WEIRD. I JUST SET IT YESTERDAY.
Bell-chan, thanks for your help today.
You're welcome.
OKAY... WE'RE DONE FOR THE DAY.

HE WAS *HERE* JUST A SECOND AGO!
EH?
AND NOW, YOUNG MAN...LET'S GET YOU SOMETHING TO *EAT*, OKAY?
KCHAK
LOOKS THAT WAY.
DID HE GO ON AHEAD ...?
Y-YES, BOSS!
BRING HIM WITH YOU AGAIN *TOMORROW.*

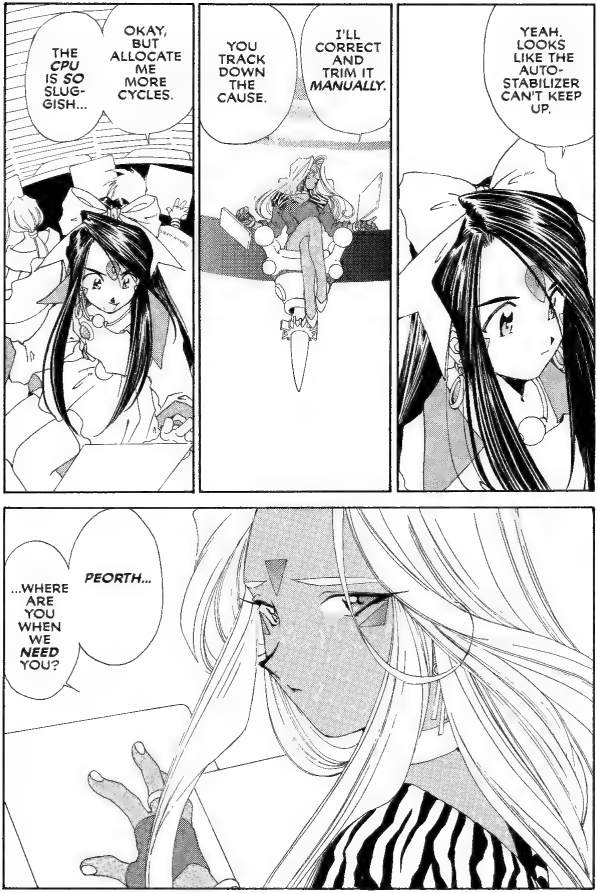
HIS NAME...?
SO WHAT'S HIS NAME?
BETTER NOT TELL HER HE'S A TOTAL STRANGER...
THAT BOY. WHAT'S HIS NAME?
HUH?
UH... ER... TAKE-HIRO ...?
WOW... KIND OF OLD FASHIONED, HUH?
YEAH, AIN'T IT? HA, HA...

OH, THAT'S *RIGHT*.
MAN, OH *MAN!* WHAT A *WEIRD* DAY!
I FORGOT URD AND SKULD AREN'T HERE.
STRANGE TO SEE THE PLACE SO DARK.
まぁっ
THERE'S S-SOMETHING *OUT* THERE!
WHAT'S *WRONG*, KEIICHI?

WELCOME HOME...
AH... Y-YES! H-HELLO...
...!
HELP ME...
...LORD...
MEAN-WHILE, BACK AT YGGDRASIL...



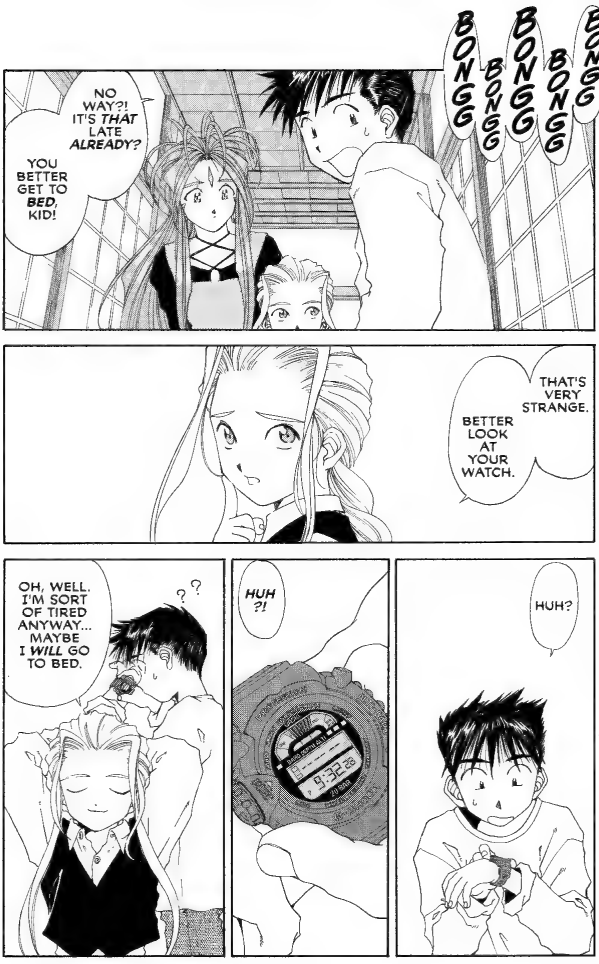
THERE'S A DEFINITE *DRIFT* ALONG THE *TIME AXIS.*
THIS IS *WAY* STRANGE.


YEAH. LOOKS LIKE THE AUTO-STABILIZER CAN'T KEEP UP.
I'LL CORRECT AND TRIM IT *MANUALLY*.
YOU TRACK DOWN THE CAUSE.
OKAY, BUT ALLOCATE ME MORE CYCLES.
THE *CPU* IS *SO* SLUG-GISH...
PEORTH...
...WHERE ARE YOU WHEN WE *NEED* YOU?

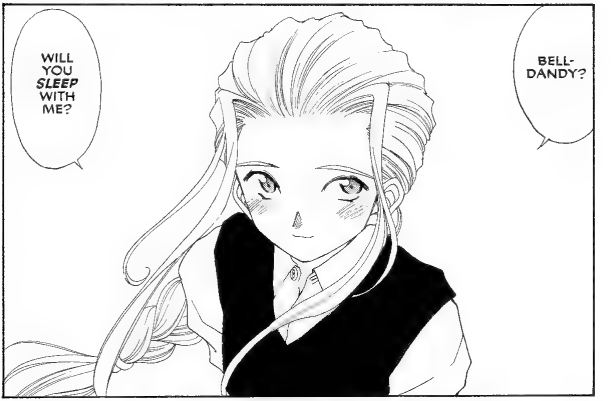
…
TICK TOCK
カッコ カッコ

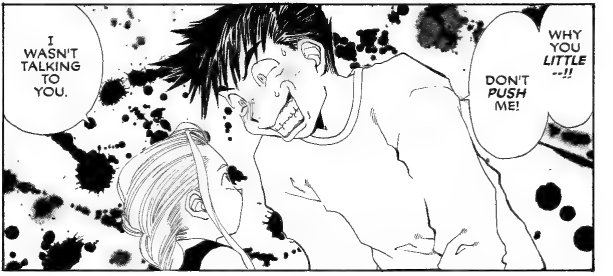
CHAK
BRRR! BRRR!
...
EH?!
YOU CAN'T CONNECT?

THEORETICALLY, IT'S *IMPOSSIBLE* FOR ME TO FAIL TO GET THROUGH.
I KNOW.
BUT JUST THIS *MORNING*...
TOO BAD. I HOPED MAYBE THEY MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING UP THERE.
ABOUT WHAT?
!
BONGG
BONGG
BONGG
BONGG
BONGG
BONGG


BONGG
BONGG
BONGG
BONGG
BONGG
NO WAY?! IT'S THAT LATE ALREADY?
YOU BETTER GET TO BED, KID!
THAT'S VERY STRANGE.
BETTER LOOK AT YOUR WATCH.
HUH?
HUH ?!
OH, WELL. I'M SORT OF TIRED ANYWAY... MAYBE I WILL GO TO BED.
? ?

?
AND...

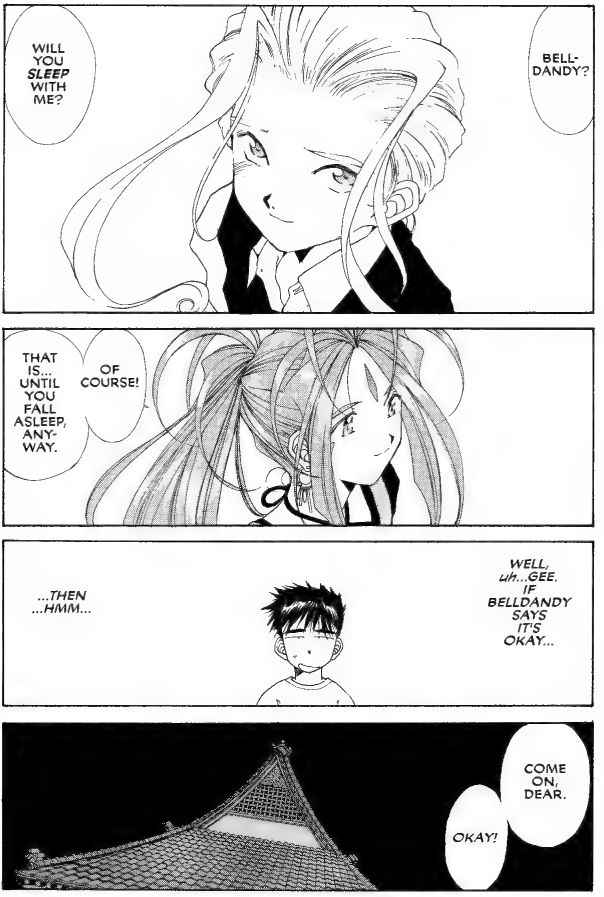

WILL YOU *SLEEP* WITH ME?
BELL-DANDY?


I WASN'T TALKING TO YOU.
DON'T *PUSH* ME!
WHY YOU *LITTLE* --!!

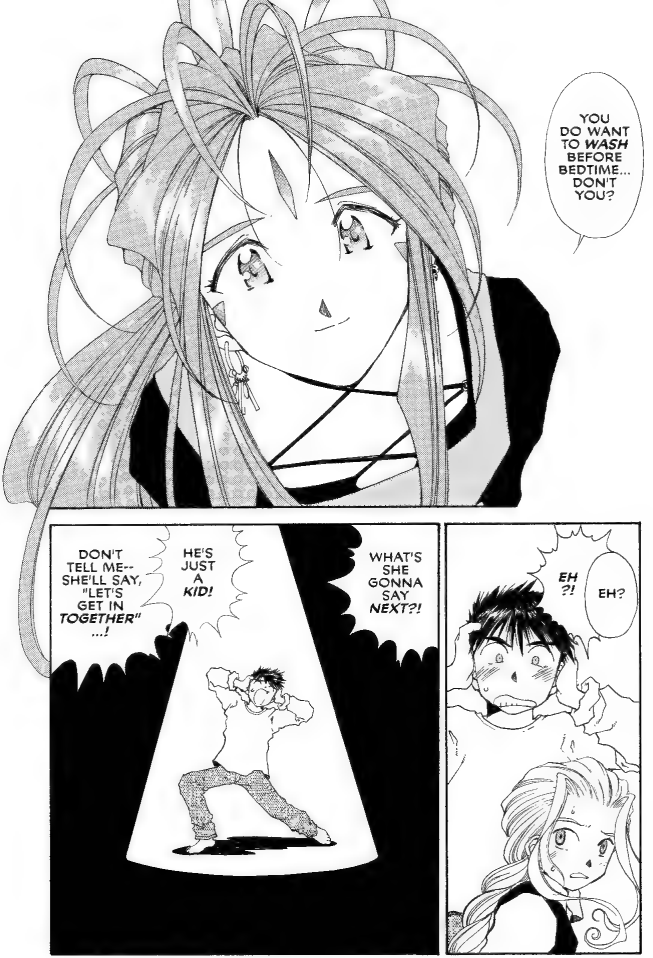
WELL, UH...GEE. IF BELLDANDY SAYS IT'S OKAY, THEN... HMM...
THAT IS... UNTIL YOU FALL ASLEEP, ANY-WAY.
OF COURSE!
WELL, BELL-DANDY? IS THAT OKAY?
...UNTIL SLEEP COMES...
YES...

CHAPTER 96

Memories of a Youth

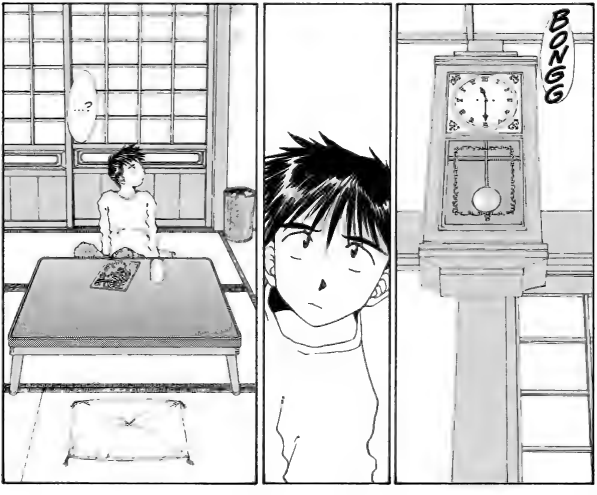

WILL YOU *SLEEP* WITH ME?
BELL-DANDY?
THAT IS... UNTIL YOU FALL ASLEEP, ANY-WAY.
OF COURSE!
...THEN ...HMM...
WELL, uh...GEE. IF BELLDANDY SAYS IT'S OKAY...
COME ON, DEAR.
OKAY!

もわ〜fuwashhh
..B-BUT THIS...
...
IT... LOOKS LIKE A BATH.
IT IS A BATH.

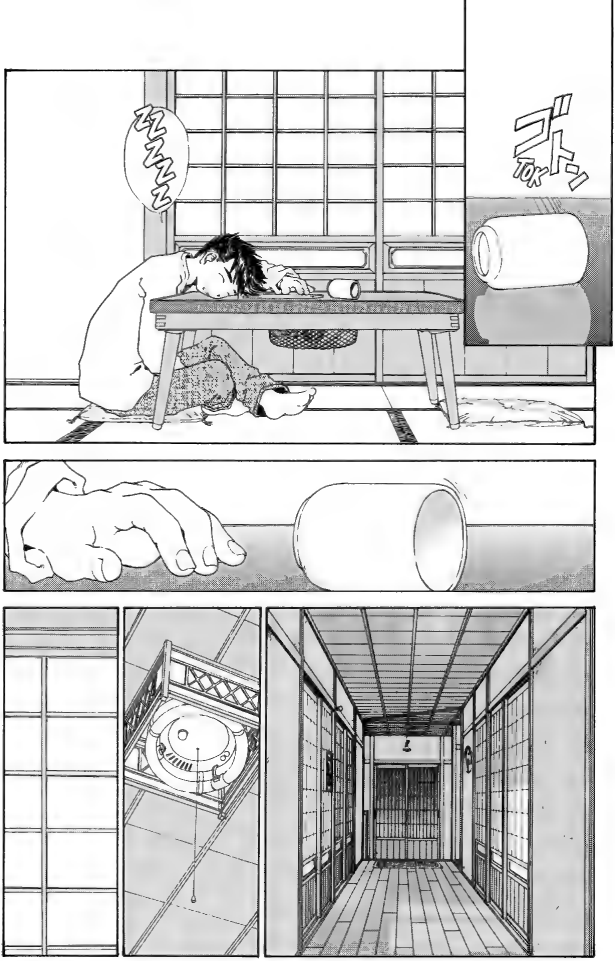

YOU DO WANT TO *WASH* BEFORE BEDTIME... DON'T YOU?
DON'T TELL ME-- SHE'LL SAY, "LET'S GET IN *TOGETHER*" ...!
HE'S JUST A *KID!*
WHAT'S SHE GONNA SAY *NEXT?!*
EH ?!
EH?

BUT BED'S SO NICE AND COMFY AFTER A BATH.
HUH?
I...I DON'T WANT A BATH.
UH... UHMM...
OH, REALLY?
I...I ALWAYS WASH IN THE MORNING.
I'M WITH YOU, KID!
ACK! OH, NO...
ALL RIGHT, THEN... WE'LL HAVE A BATH TOGETHER IN THE MORNING.
YES, MA'AM!
ING
YAHOO! RIGHT ON!
THANKS, KID!
I'M SORRY.
WELL... IN THAT CASE...

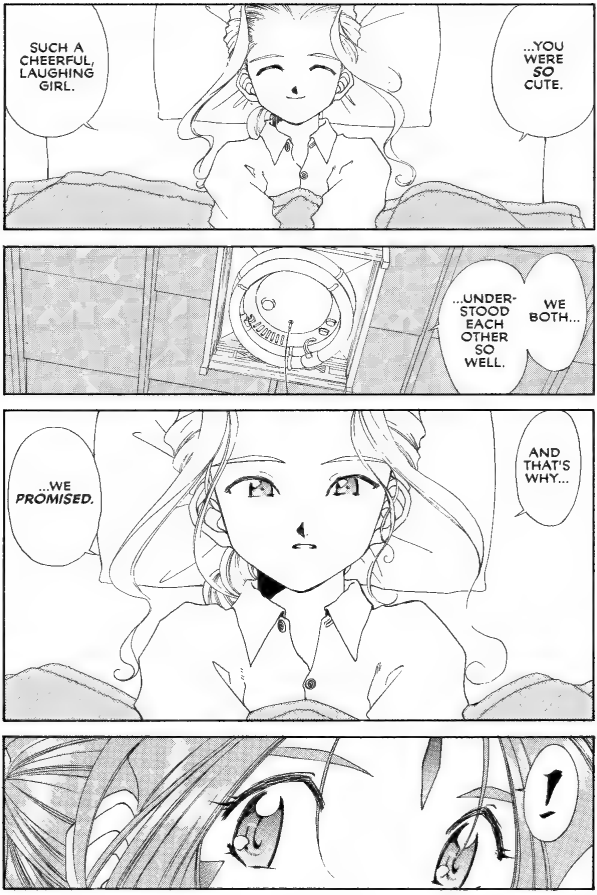
WELL... G'NIGHT.


...?
BONGG

BELL-DANDY...
...CAN I SLEEP WITH YOU?
WHY ...?
WHY AM I SO UPSET?
I MEAN... HE'S JUST A KID.
SWEEP
HUH ...?
Shimmer

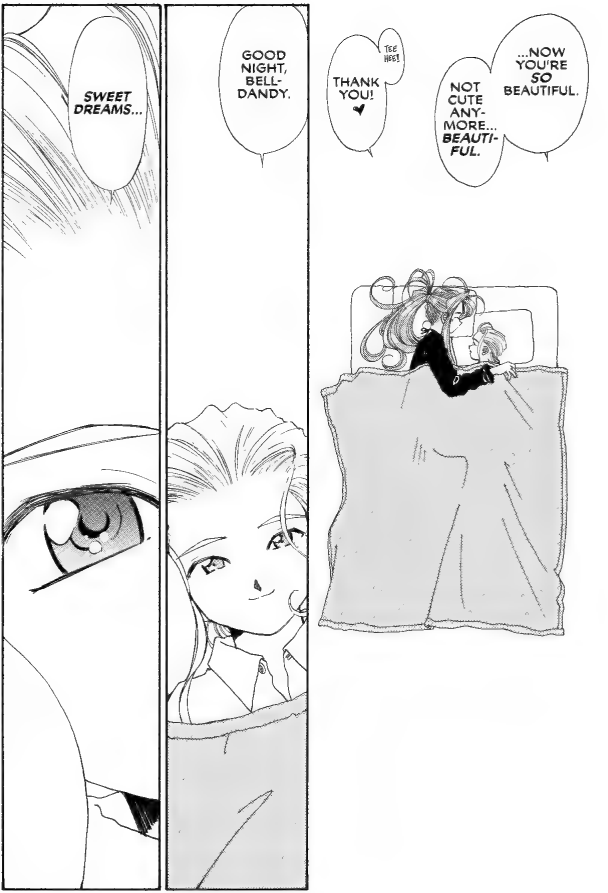

ゴトン
ZZZZZ

OH...
ARE YOU ASLEEP YET?
NO.
SO WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT ME?
WELL, LET ME SEE...

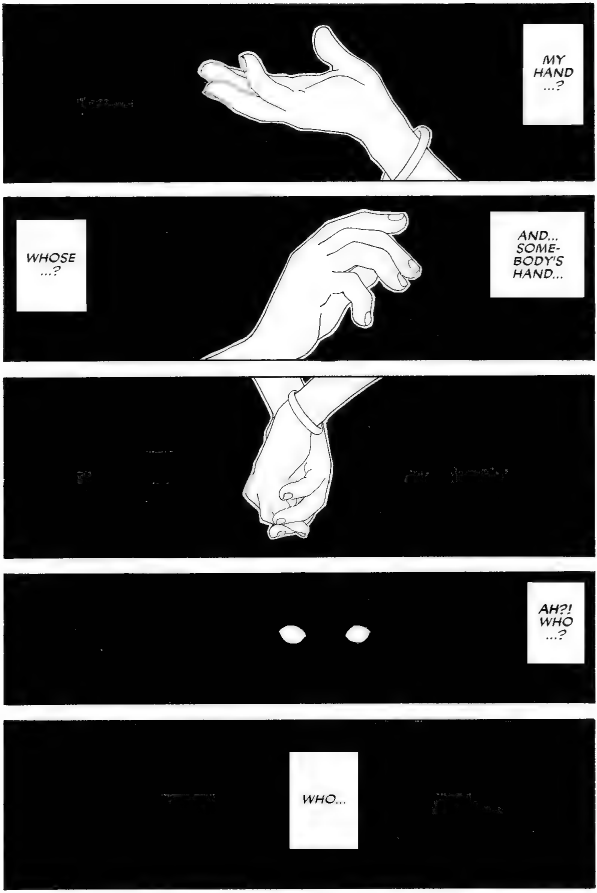

SUCH A CHEERFUL, LAUGHING GIRL.
...YOU WERE SO CUTE.
...UNDER-STOOD EACH OTHER SO WELL.
WE BOTH...
...WE PROMISED.
AND THAT'S WHY...
!

"PROM-
ISED"
...?
WHAT?
IT'S
A
SECRET...
I WANT
TO
REMEMBER.
FOR THIS
CHILD...AS
WELL AS
FOR ME...
UM...

CAN I SLEEP ON *YOUR* SIDE?
YES?
ALL RIGHT.
BUT...
SO *WARM*...
...JUST LIKE BEFORE.


SWEET DREAMS...
GOOD NIGHT, BELL-DANDY.
THANK YOU!
TEE HEE!
NOT CUTE ANY-MORE... BEAUTI-FUL.
...NOW YOU'RE SO BEAUTIFUL.

OH...


MY HAND ...?
WHOSE ...?
AND... SOME-BODY'S HAND...
AH?! WHO ...?
WHO...

BONGG
BONGG
BONGG

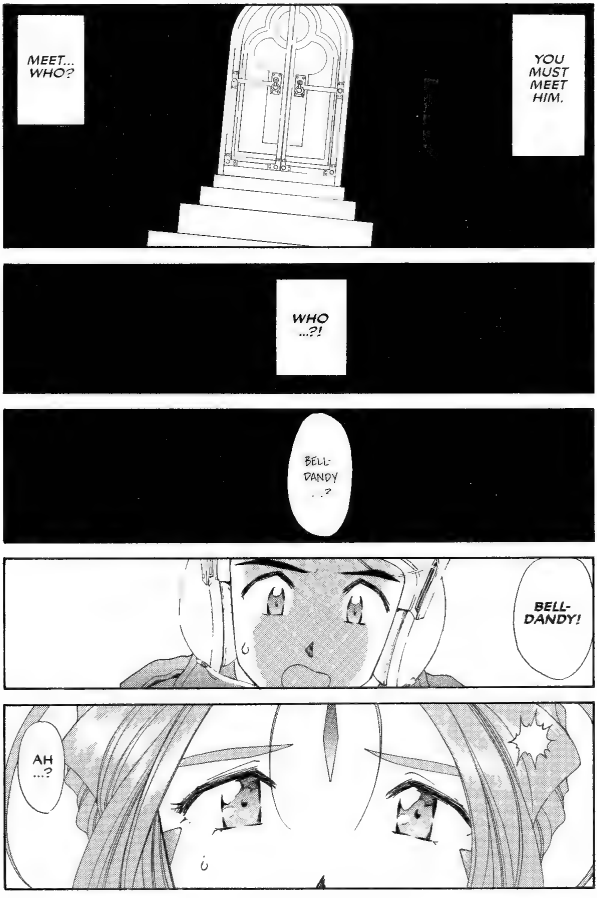
BONGG
BONGG
BONGG
BONGG
BONGG
BONGG
!
NINE TIMES ...?!
WHOOSH
NINE O'CLOCK ...?!

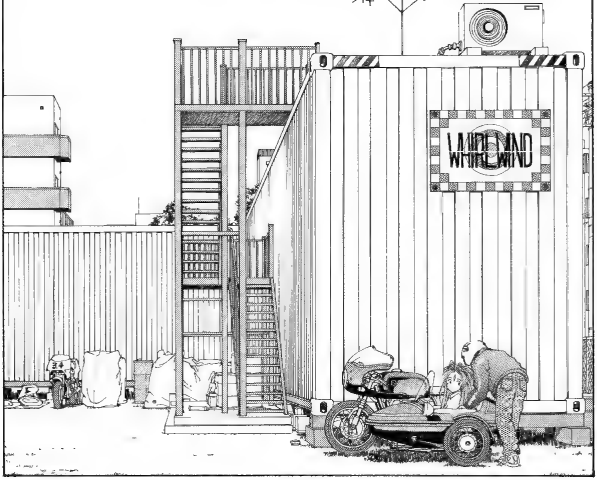
KEIICH!!! I'M SO SORRY! I OVERSLEPT! WE'RE LATE FOR WORK!
HUH ...?
OH ...?
IT'S JUST 7:30. SEE...?
IT'S OKAY.

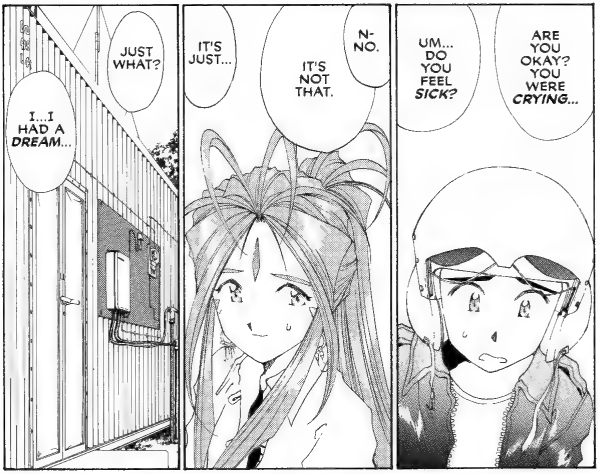
YOU FIGURE HE WENT HOME?
...HE WASN'T THERE WHEN I WOKE UP
ACTU-ALLY...
DIDN'T HE SLEEP WITH YOU...?
SAY... WHERE'S THAT KID?
I HOPE THAT'S IT...
BRRRMBB

BBBBRRRMMMBB
BELL IS SO SLEEPY. IT'S LIKE SHE'S BEEN BURNING UP HER POWER, SOME-HOW...
WOW.

F-FOR WHAT?
"CHO-SEN" ...?
YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN, CHILD.


MEET... WHO?
YOU MUST MEET HIM.
WHO ...?!
BELL-DANDY ...?
BELL-DANDY!
AH ...?


WORLD


I...I HAD A *DREAM*...
JUST WHAT?
IT'S JUST...
IT'S NOT THAT.
N-NO.
UM... DO YOU FEEL *SICK*?
ARE YOU OKAY? YOU WERE *CRYING*...

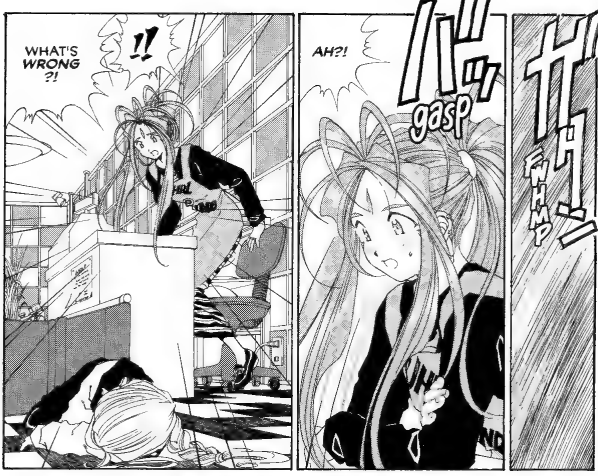
A DREAM ...? BUT--
SDONK
OW!
IT'S SO LATE... I WAS WORRIED!
I WAS WAITING FOR YOU.
HI, BELL-DANDY!
?

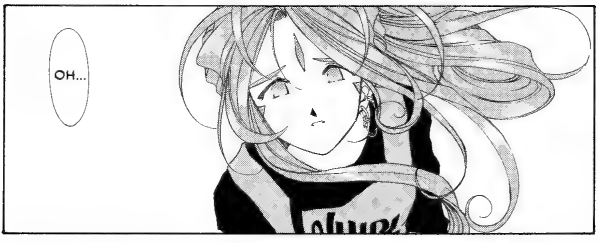
YEAH! WHAT TIME DO YOU THINK IT IS, ANYWAY ?!
REALLY ...?
...!
MY CLOCK IS NOT OFF! IT'S THE SAME AS MY WATCH!
CHIHIRO, IT'S GOTTA BE YOUR CLOCK THAT'S OFF!
MORISATO... YOU GOTTA JUNK THAT WATCH. LOOK!
HUH...? IT'S... UM... 9:25.
WHOA !!

...MY CLOCK IS THE LAW!!
TH... THAT'S WHY... IN MY SHOP...
YES, MASTER
GO ON! IT'S YOUR FUNERAL, BUDDY!
THEY'LL SHOW THE TIME!
SO IT'S WRONG, TOO! CHECK THE TV!
H- HEY!
9:50
AWK ?!
ER...RIGHT, EVERY-BODY! TO WORK, TO WORK!
SMACK! SMACK!
LOOKS LIKE AIR SOFT AMMO TO ME
WHAT KIND OF "WORK" WERE YOU DOING BEFORE WE GOT HERE?
BY THE WAY, CHI-HIRO...
WAREHOUSE

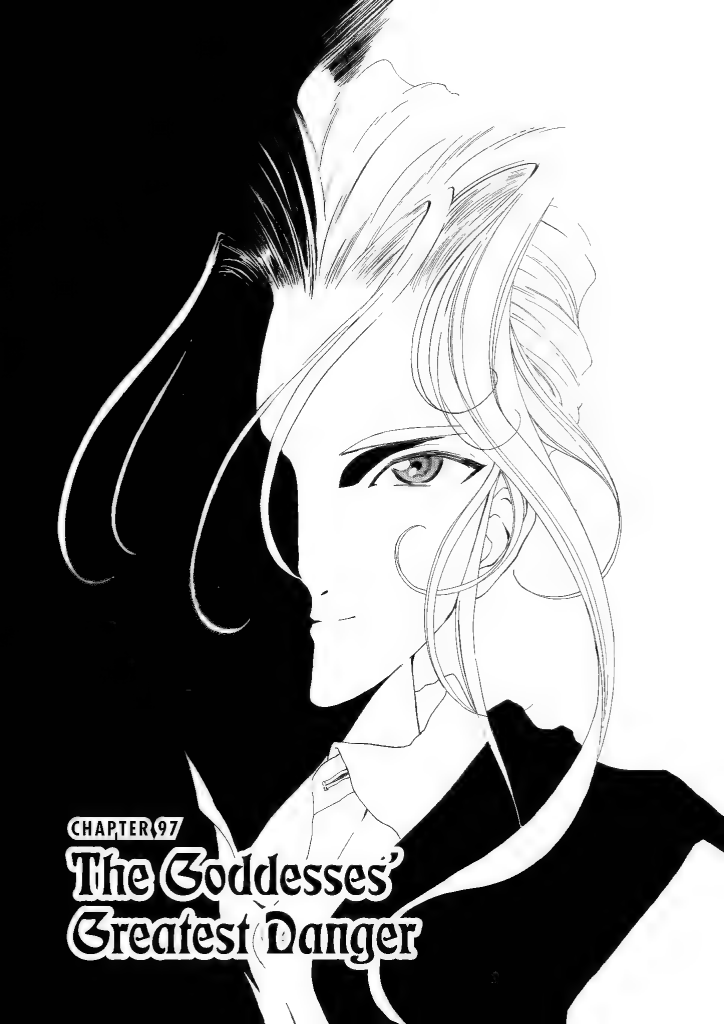
FADE

...SOON YOU'LL REMEMBER ME.
SOON...
...!
N-NOT AL-READY...
WH... WHAT?


WHAT'S WRONG ?!
!!
AH?!
ハッ
gasp
ガ
FWMP

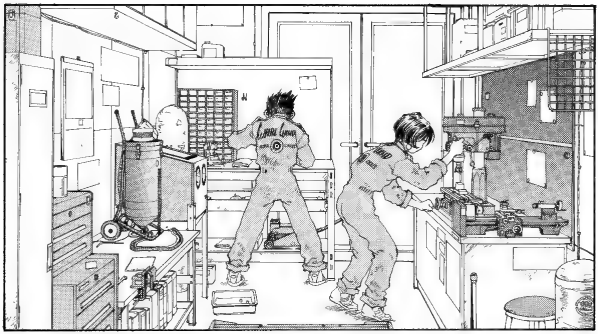

OH...

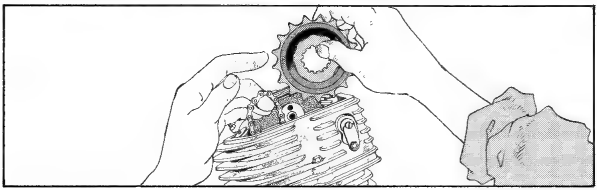
SOME-
HOW...
THEY
LOOK
THE
SAME...
AND
HIS
EYES...
TH...
THAT'S
RIGHT.
THOSE
EYES...
IN THE
DREAM...



CHAPTER 97

The Goddesses' Greatest Danger





...
...I'M NOT UPSET.
WHAT'S GOT YOU ALL UPSET?

I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR--
HE'S SO, YOU KNOW-- GROWN UP.
AH ?!
...WHAT YOU'RE HOLDING ISN'T A CAM SPROCKET-- IT'S A DRIVE SPROCKET!
FOR A TRIUMPH!
OH, REALLY? THEN WHY HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED...
YEAH? THEN WHAT ...?
I'M TELLING YOU, IT ISN'T THAT!!
I... HE... ER

...AS JUST *ACTING* GROWN UP.
ALTHOUGH... IN HIS CASE, HE'S NOT SO MUCH "GROWN UP"...
IS THIS REALLY CHIHIRO ...?
JUST LET ME PLAY WITH HIM SOME MORE. ALL HE NEEDS IS A FRIEND.
...USUALLY, THEY'RE JUST *LONELY*... POOR THINGS.
KIDS WHO *PUSH* THEM-SELVES LIKE THAT...
BOSS... WERE *YOU* THAT KIND OF KID... MAYBE?
CUT IT OUT!

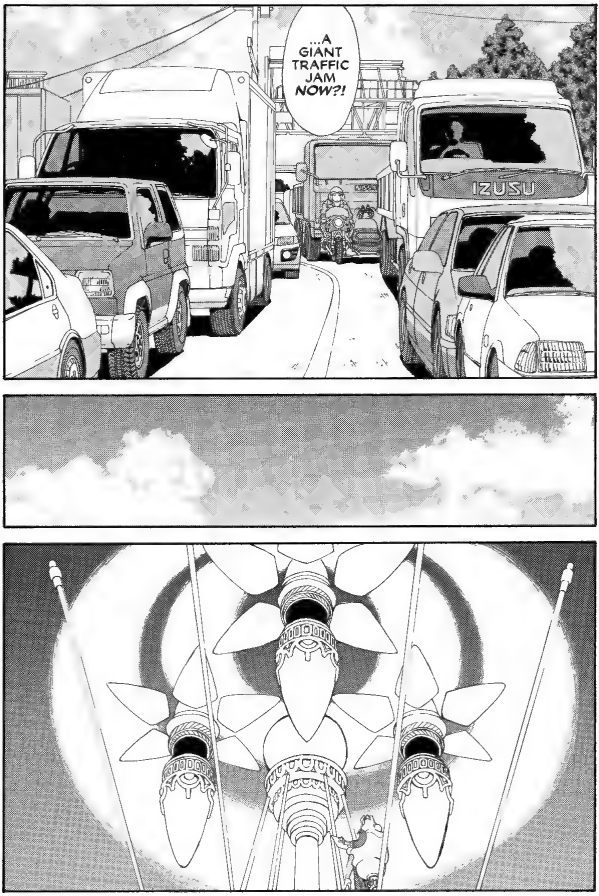
WHA --?!?
?!
SKRASH!
BE CAREFUL, MORISATO! IT MIGHT BE A GAS LEAK!
BELL-DANDY !!

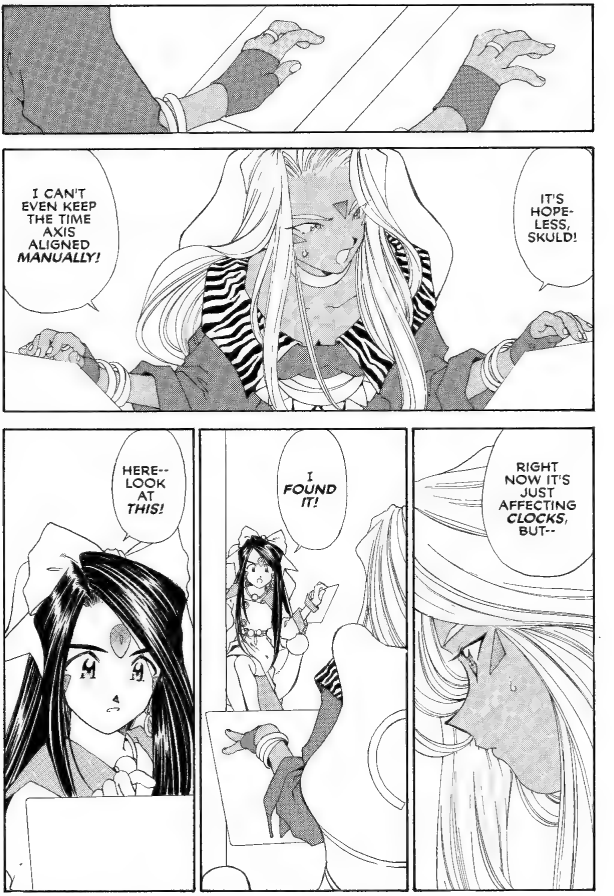
BOTH OF THEM...
I KNOW THEM.
THOSE EYES...
THAT EYE...

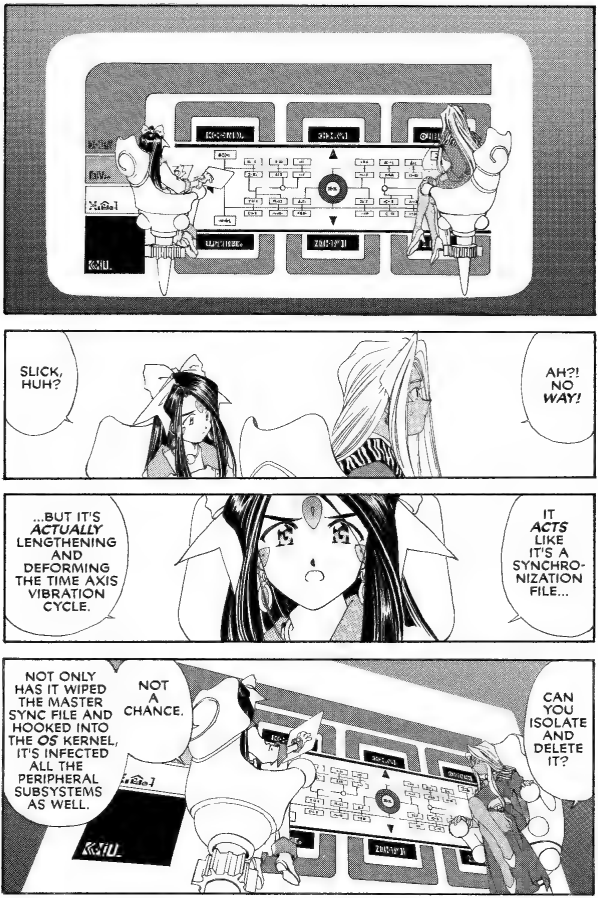
BOTH OF THEM!
OH ...?!
ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M SORRY, KEIICHI. I JUST... GOT A LITTLE DIZZY.
I...I'M OKAY, TOO... REALLY...

ALL RIGHT, MORI-SATO!
TAKE THEM HOME *IMMEDI-ATELY!*
HUH? YOU DON'T MIND IF I LEAVE WORK?
OF COURSE NOT!
GEEZ, I'M NOT *COM-PLETELY* HEART-LESS, YOU KNOW!
GO-- AND MAKE SURE THEY GET CHECKED OUT BY A DOCTOR.
...
CHIHIRO-SAN...
NOT *COM-PLETELY* HEART-LESS...
AND, MORISATO... DON'T FORGET TO PUNCH OUT BEFORE YOU LEAVE.
BELLPANDY, TOO.
LABOR AND WORKLAND

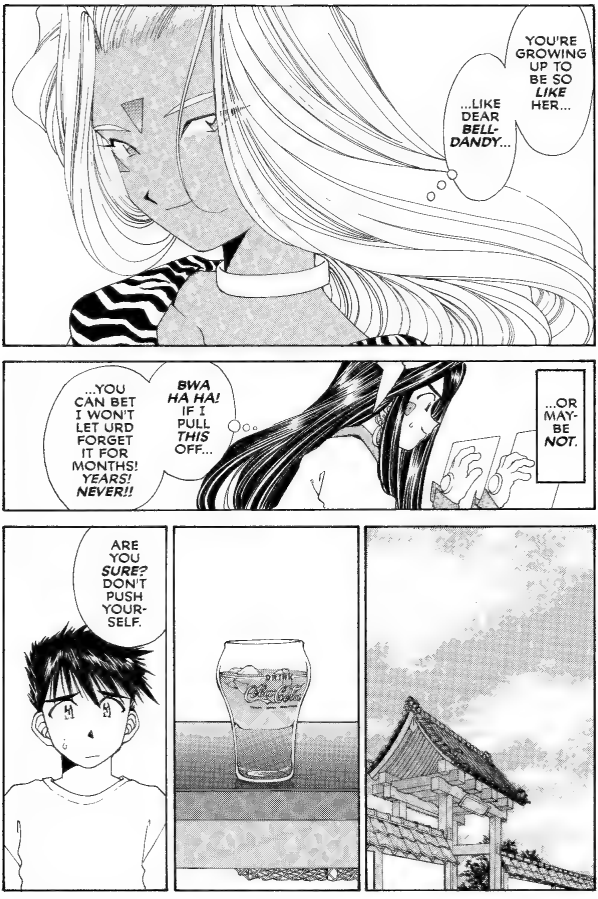
STRANGE... WHY *BOTH* OF THEM...? AT THE *SAME TIME?*
BRRMMBB
AND WHY...

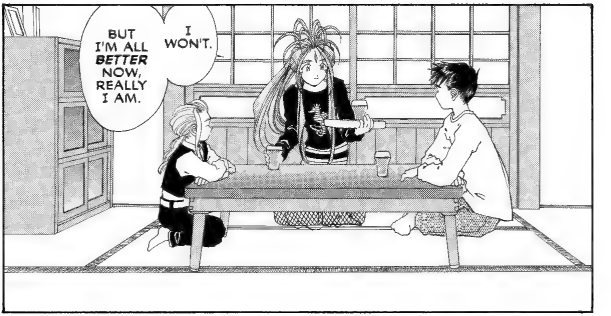

...A GIANT TRAFFIC JAM NOW?!
ISUZU

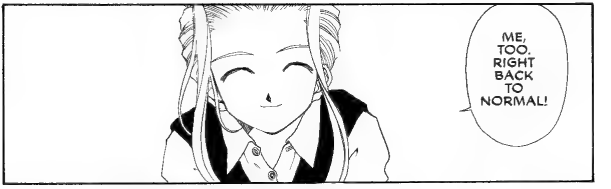

I CAN'T EVEN KEEP THE TIME AXIS ALIGNED *MANUALLY!*
IT'S HOPE-LESS, SKULD!
HERE-- LOOK AT *THIS!*
I *FOUND IT!*
RIGHT NOW IT'S JUST AFFECTING *CLOCKS*, BUT--

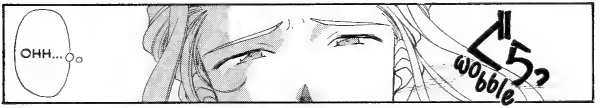

SLICK, HUH?
AH?! NO *WAY!*
...BUT IT'S *ACTUALLY* LENGTHENING AND DEFORMING THE TIME AXIS VIBRATION CYCLE.
IT *ACTS* LIKE IT'S A SYNCHRO-NIZATION FILE...
NOT ONLY HAS IT WIPED THE MASTER SYNC FILE AND HOOKED INTO THE *OS* KERNEL, IT'S INFECTED ALL THE PERIPHERAL SUBSYSTEMS AS WELL.
NOT A CHANCE.
CAN YOU ISOLATE AND DELETE IT?

AI-YI-YI... WORSE THAN I THOUGHT.
I'LL LOOK FOR A WAY TO LOCK THEM ALL TOGETHER AND DO A SIMULTANEOUS WIPE AND REPLACE.
YOU TRACK DOWN AND TAG ALL THE PIECES.
GOT IT.
SO WE CAN'T DELETE IT PIECE BY PIECE-- IT'S ALL OR NOTHING.
EACH SEPARATE PART IS EQUAL TO THE WHOLE.
IT'S A BIT LIKE THAT.
YOU KNOW ABOUT FRACTALS, RIGHT?


YOU'RE GROWING UP TO BE SO *LIKE* HER...
...LIKE DEAR *BELL-DANDY*...
...OR MAY-BE *NOT*.
BWA HA HA! IF I PULL *THIS* OFF...
...YOU CAN BET I WON'T LET URD FORGET IT FOR MONTHS! *YEARS! NEVER!!*
ARE YOU *SURE?* DON'T PUSH YOUR-SELF.


BUT I'M ALL *BETTER* NOW, REALLY I AM.
I WON'T.


ME, TOO. RIGHT BACK TO NORMAL!


OHH...
wobble

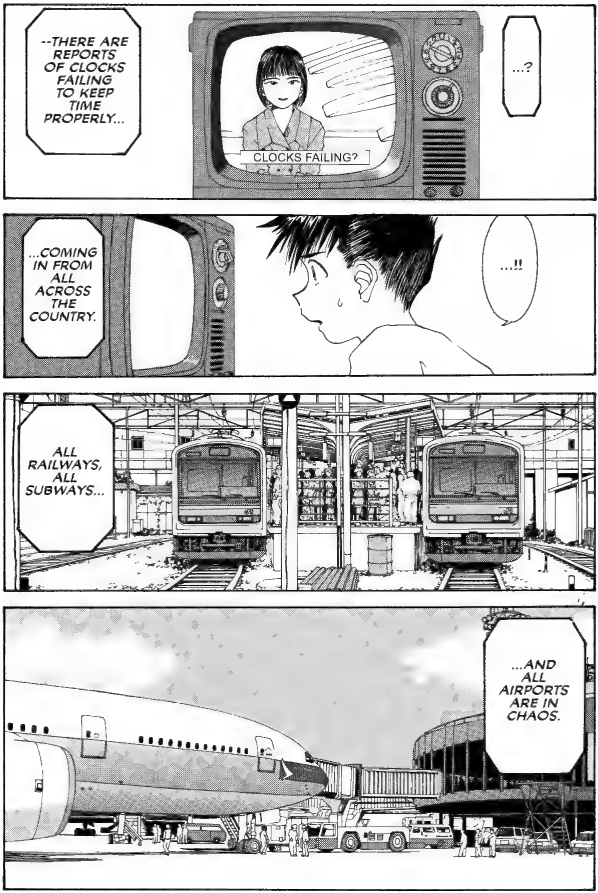
NOT *AGAIN*, SO *SOON* ?!
DAMN!

OH...

...M-MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT.
...
LOOK, I THINK YOU SHOULD REST!
KYAAN
KYAA
SPLASH
UM...
...I'M NOT FEELING SO GOOD... EITHER...
OOH...

I WILL!
THEN YOU SHOULD REST, TOO. COME ON!
NIGHTY-NIGHT...
...KEIICHI.
HE'S NOT SO MUCH "GROWN UP"...
WRONG, CHIHIRO.

--THEY'RE THE EYES OF A GROWN-UP ACTING LIKE A KID!
THOSE AREN'T THE EYES OF A KID ACTING GROWN UP--
THIS TIME, YOU'RE WRONG, BOSS.
...AS JUST ACTING GROWN UP.
...BUT IN THAT CASE... WOULDN'T BELLDANDY HAVE NOTICED ...?
...
BE A MAN, MORI-SATO!
ENOUGH ALREADY!


--THERE ARE REPORTS OF CLOCKS FAILING TO KEEP TIME PROPERLY...
CLOCKS FAILING?
...?
...COMING IN FROM ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY.
...!!
ALL RAILWAYS, ALL SUBWAYS...
...AND ALL AIRPORTS ARE IN CHAOS.

THE GOVERNMENT, DEEPLY CONCERNED, HAS ESTABLISHED...
THE PHENOMENON HAS NO KNOWN CAUSE.
...AN EMERGENCY OFFICE TO COORDINATE--
THAT'S VERY STRANGE.
BETTER LOOK AT YOUR WATCH.
HOW DID HE KNOW?
HOW'D HE KNOW MY WATCH WAS OFF?

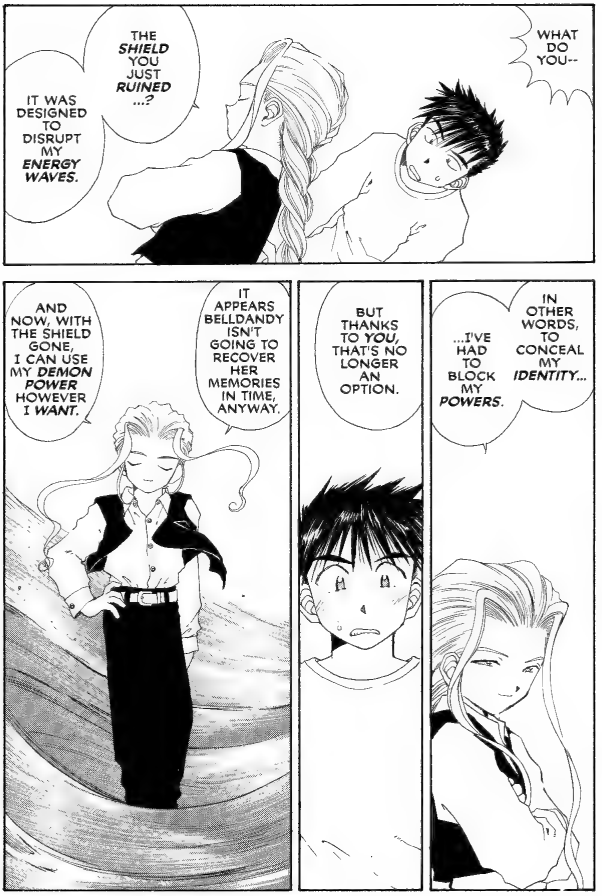
THEN... THIS WHOLE UP-ROAR...

PLEASE, *PLEASE* REMEMBER!
I'M *BEGGING* YOU!
...
IS IT... HOPELESS?
IS IT *REALLY* HOPELESS ...?
DAMN IT!
...CAN'T I LAST JUST ONE MORE DAY?
JUST UNTIL *TOMORROW*...

BLOOSH
ONE, TWO... THREE!
SPEAR!

YOU MELTED MY *SHIELD,* YOU BASTARD!
WHAT HAVE YOU *DONE?*
HEY, *HEY.*
ハンニョワ
SHHHSSSS
YOU CAN'T HANDLE *WATER,* CAN YOU?!
HAH!! I THOUGHT SO!

AND HOW DID YOU FIGURE *THAT?*
AS IF *ANYONE* WOULD TURN DOWN A BATH WITH BELL-DANDY!
...AND THE WAY YOU AVOIDED THE *BATH* YESTERDAY.
THE WAY YOU DODGED THAT *SODA* TODAY...
ANYWAY, I'VE GOT PLENTY *MORE* H2O RIGHT HERE, KIDDO, SO--
IMAGINE MY THRILL TO HEAR YOU SAY IT.
NOT *QUITE* THE DUNCE I TOOK YOU FOR.
HMPH!
...A LITTLE KNOWLEDGE IS A *DANGEROUS THING,* YOUNG MAN.
BUT...


WHAT DO YOU--
THE SHIELD YOU JUST RUINED ...?
IT WAS DESIGNED TO DISRUPT MY ENERGY WAVES.
IN OTHER WORDS, TO CONCEAL MY IDENTITY...
...I'VE HAD TO BLOCK MY POWERS.
BUT THANKS TO YOU, THAT'S NO LONGER AN OPTION.
IT APPEARS BELLDANDY ISN'T GOING TO RECOVER HER MEMORIES IN TIME, ANYWAY.
AND NOW, WITH THE SHIELD GONE, I CAN USE MY DEMON POWER HOWEVER I WANT.

THAT'S RIGHT.
AND JUST LOOK AT YOU... YOU'RE SHAK-ING.
Y-YOU'RE A DEMON ?!
DEMON POWER ...?!
WHICH, AT THIS MOMENT, MEANS USING IT TO KILL YOU.

NOW... DIE.
STILL, THAT'S NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF.
IT'S JUST INSTINCT... IN THE FACE OF REAL FEAR.

FUCK !!!
!!
HELLO, KEIICHI...
...I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN...

BUT AS FOR YOU, *MON PETIT*-- IT'S ***PAYBACK TIME!***

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Mike Richardson

English-language version
produced by Dark Horse Comics

OH MY GODDESS! Vol. 16
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Published by Dark Horse Manga
A division of Dark Horse Comics, Inc.
10956 SE Main Street
Milwaukie, OR 97222
darkhorse.com

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First edition: December 2010
ISBN 978-1-59582-594-0

1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

Printed at Lebonfon Printing, Inc., Val-d'Or, QC, Canada

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NOTE: Full addresses and e-mail addresses will not be printed, unless you ask! All fan artwork, letters, and e-mails submitted become the property of Dark Horse Comics.

Dear Enchantress,

A humble, samurai-movie, forehead-to-the-floor *gomen ne* goes out to patient reader Bill Brown, who sent in a letter and this fan art some time ago, and is probably wondering whatever became of it. Bill asks, "What are Skuld's and Urd's runes? I don't recall ever seeing them. We see Bell's and Peorth's during their 'fight,' but I did some research and found nothing certain." Well, that's a good question. Of course, we saw the scenes in vol. 15 with Belldandy casting runes on a sheet with the Norse forms of hers and Urd's names, but that didn't seem to tell us which rune is distinctly Urd's (or Skuld's, for that matter). Maybe having a rune is a prerogative of a Goddess First Class, and now that she is one, Urd might acquire a rune in the future?

Regarding the fan art, Bill explains, "It sort of pays homage to that scene in *Watchmen* where the Comedian is torching the VC soldier." Does this mean Urd is going to end up with a scar in return? Poor Troubadour. Pretty savage for *Oh My Goddess!* fan art, yet funny withal. After all, I loved the *Azumanga Daioh/Watchmen* parody comic that was floating around with Chiyo-chan as Ozymandias (well, of course—she's the smartest) and Osaka as Rorschach—the shifting mask being used to convey her distinctive facial expressions. ^_^

—CGH

Creator Kosuke Fujishima in 1997!

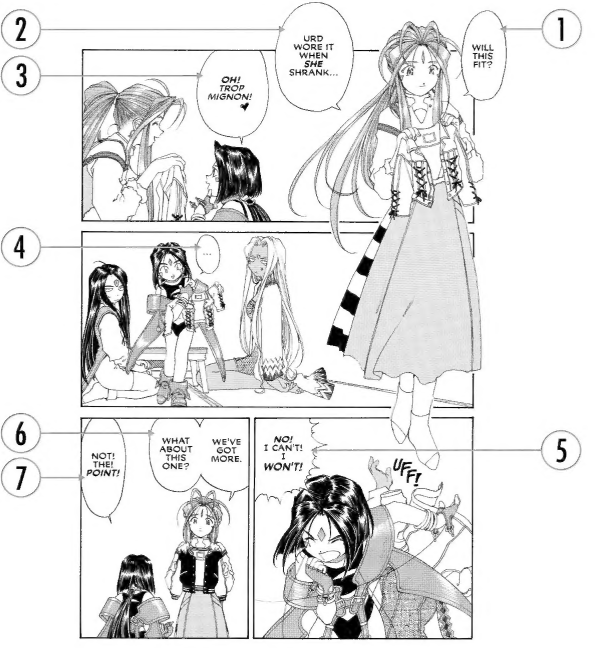
His message to fans in the original Japanese *Oh My Goddess!* Vol. 16:

What is this strange supermachine of mine? Well, that's just it—it could be anything! Here are some of the possibilities:

1.) Spacecraft
2.) Time machine
3.) Transforming powered exoskeleton
4.) Banpei-kun
5.) Despite appearances, some kind of animal
6.) Suspicious photo composite of me and my R/C
7.) All illusion
8.) Something that doesn't show up until vol. 18

STOP! This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English, but arranged in right-to-left reading format to maintain the artwork's visual orientation as originally drawn and published in Japan. If you've never read comics this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right-hand corner, and will read each word balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take a little getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun! If this is the millionth manga you've read this way, never mind. ^_^



Oh My Goddess!

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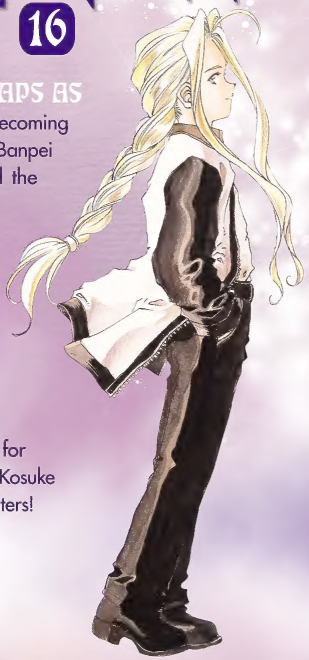

AFTER SUCH EPIC MISHAPS AS

Belldandy's and Keiichi's hands becoming unable to part, and Skuld's robot Banpei falling in love, what harm could the arrival of a cute young boy at the temple do to its residents . . . the Earth . . . the universe? Or could the damage be more up close and personal . . . as he seeks to get very close to Belldandy? They say when disaster strikes, time seems to slow down . . . The problem is, it's slowing down for everybody . . . for real! Plus a message from creator Kosuke Fujishima, and your fan art and letters!

DARK HORSE MANGA
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